Severe drought in NMI persists. PAGE 2
Defense rests in trial of Ataligs. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

TRADITION AND CULTURE
500 Sails brings with it three traditional Chamorro canoes called *proa* to join the reburial for the human remains that were dug up at the casino site, lending an authentic touch to the ceremony.
KRIZEL TUAZON

Curfew: 10pm to 4am

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Torres: Enforcement TF to strictly implement curfew

With COVID-19 patients that are deemed to be cases of community transmission and the recent surge in cases on Guam and other areas in the Pacific, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has issued a directive that reimplements curfew restrictions that he said will be more strictly enforced.

According to Torres, he has created an Enforcement Task Force under the COVID-19 Task Force to strictly enforce

See CURFEW on Page 4

AT A GLANCE
As of 6pm, Aug. 23, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	767	53	820
Recovered	381	13	394
Active	366	53	419
Deaths	6	1	7
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			31,661

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	54	0	54
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			12,920*

*Total includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted to not report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
Red: Least safe
Orange
Yellow
Blue
Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

Guam posts 7th COVID-19 death

By JUSTINE NAUTA
justine_nauta@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A day after Guam recorded its highest number of COVID-19 cases in one day, with 105 people testing positive, and two days after its sixth COVID-19 death, the island posted its seventh COVID-19 death last Aug. 21—a

See GUAM on Page 4

700 ancestral remains reburied at IPI site

A total of 700 ancestral remains that date back to the ancient Chamorro settlement of Anaguan—which is now the present-day village of Gara-

See 700 on Page 4

The Historic Preservation Office leads the reburial ceremony for about 700 bones that were dug up during the construction of the casino. The reburial was held at the grounds of the Imperial Pacific Saipan casino last Friday, Aug. 21.
KRIZEL TUAZON

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Effective: **AUG. 24 to SEPT. 6**

- **CURFEW**: 10pm to 4am
- **SOCIAL GATHERINGS:** Gatherings of more than 10 people in one room or space is prohibited.
- **CHURCHES:** Church services limited to 50% occupancy.

BUSINESSES

- Grocery stores allowed to open from 4am to 9pm.
- Gas stations are allowed to open from 4am to 9pm.
- All businesses shall limit occupancy to 50%.
- Restaurants and bars may continue to serve dine-in customers at 50% occupancy. Employees are included in the 50% occupancy limit.
- All businesses engaged in gaming (casino, video poker, and e-gaming facilities) are closed, except if authorized to operate.

OUTDOOR RECREATION

All public parks, public pathways, and public beaches are open for exercise and shoreline subsistence fishing.

- Only allowed from 4am to 9pm daily.
- Social gatherings are prohibited.
- The Grotto remains closed.
- Mañagaha Island is open to public.
- Boats/ships must be disinfected regularly.

SCHOOLS

- Public and private schools shall remain closed for in-person instruction but permitted to have online classes.
- School buildings, including administrative offices, shall be closed to the public, except for employees or contractors.
- The CNMI Public School System, through its Special Education Program, may be permitted to allow in-person instruction for students with special needs.

Source: Office of the Governor

INSIDE

NATION
The House approves legislation that would reverse recent changes in U.S. Postal Service.
PAGE 12

WORLD
South Korea has added 397 new cases to its caseload in a 10th day of triple-digit increases.
PAGE 13

LIFE & STYLE
"Full House" star Lori Loughlin and her husband, Mossimo Giannulli, are sentenced to prison.
PAGE 15

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

Severe drought in NMI persists

Rainfall has been adequate for most locations being monitored by the National Weather Service in Guam but still well below normal for the CNMI, where severe drought persists on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan.

Officials across the CNMI report water levels are still above thresholds for concern, according to the latest advisory from the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency.

Expect adequate rainfall across the CNMI in the coming weeks. Light winds and daytime heating will keep a slight potential for island-convection in the coming days. Weak tropical disturbances in the next week and a half could also bring needed rainfall to the CNMI. The 10-day rainfall projections indicate around two inches of rain for Rota, Tinian, and Saipan. Island convective events would bring locally higher amounts to some areas.

The advisory states that the monsoon trough and weak disturbances made occasional appearances across western Micronesia. The weather maker for eastern Micronesia was primarily the near-equatorial trough with periods of convergent flow and weak, transient circulations. The Marianas has been sandwiched between these two regimes with generally drier conditions overall. Guam has benefited from routine island convective events but showers have been very spotty. Westward-moving upper-level lows, called TUTT cells, enhanced showers at times for the CNMI. ***(PR)***

COTA breaks ground on administrative building

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

Alfreda P. Camacho of the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority, eighth from left, and Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, ninth from left, joins other officials for the groundbreaking ceremony for the COTA office building last Aug. 20 in Lower Base, Tanapag. JUSTINE NAUTA

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority broke ground last Thursday in Lower Base to lay the foundations for its new administrative building and maintenance facility.

According to special assistant for Public Transportation Alfreda P. Camacho, COTA worked with the Office of the Governor's grants management team to put together a grant application with the Federal Transit Administration under the U.S. Department of Transportation for $6.38 million. Camacho says this grant will fund the construction of the entire building, along with the purchase of 12 buses and 30 prefabricated bus shelters not only for Saipan, but also on Rota and Tinian.

"Having a home base means so much. It solidifies the efforts that we have put in the last nine years and, to finally see a building is a testament to show that public transportation isn't going anywhere. We're here to stay for the CNMI," said Camacho. She related that COTA only had two drivers nine years ago, in 2011, but now has 20 operations personnel.

The proposed completion date for the building is Oct. 2, 2021, but Camacho urged cautious optimism about this date, considering that the upcoming months are considered "typhoon season."

"We can't tell, given it is typhoon season right now, [but] we're hopeful that…with the partnership that we have with Department of Public Works, RNV [Construction] who are the contractors, and GHD Inc. who is our construction management team, I know that they will do their very best to ensure that the completion date is followed," said Camacho.

According to GHD Inc. Saipan's office manager Andre A. Tenorio, the maintenance facility will include an integral maintenance bay with two maintenance bays and one service bay, a backup generator, a water tank with a non-potable water, washing area for buses, parking spaces, site lighting, site security fencing, etc.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios closed the ceremony by applauding COTA for its hard work and determination for being around when the CNMI needs it the most. "When the pandemic hit Saipan...nobody wanted to be around anybody. Yet our drivers took that lead, that risk…and they continue to sacrifice their lives every day," said Torres. "This is not just transport. You don't just call and say I need a ride. There's more to it. We want to make sure you're secured when they drive for you, that when my mom calls COTA, I know that she's being transported the right way, and the safe way."

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Construction manager was also allegedly trafficking 'ice.' PAGE 3
75¢
LOCAL
mer DEQ director Masga is CUC's new manager for oil

Kilili: Parents need paid leave

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

Remote learning may be the safest way to stop community spread but where does that leave working parents who need to work in order to pay their bills and provide for their family?

That is the question that Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) asked the Wage and Hour Division under the U.S. Department of Labor, when he asked the division to provide clarity on emergency paid leave eligibility for parents of children attending school this fall.

In a previous Board of Education meeting, Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada said that a Public School System survey showed that half of the 2,000 parents who responded to the survey are anxious about sending their children back to school for the upcoming semester.

Sablan said the WHD should modernize the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, or FFCRA, to make it clear that schools that use hybrid models and offer optional virtual learning are considered "closed," in order to accommodate the goals of paid leave under FFCRA and WHD's existing guidance.

Citing the WHD's guidance on the FFCRA, Sablan wrote that a school is considered "closed" for the purpose of FFCRA emergency leave, "even if "some or all instruction is being provided online or whether, through another format such as 'distance learning,' your child is still expected or required to complete assignments."

"No doubt the WHD has faced challenges to responding to the pandemic, but time is of the essence. We urge you to quickly update your guidance to provide this much-needed clarity for working parents," said Sablan.

Under the FFCRA, which took effect last April 1, eligible parents can expect two weeks of paid sick leave and up to 12 weeks (10 of which are paid) of emergency Family and Medical Leave Act in order to tend to their child(ren) whose school is closed due to the coronavirus.

In the case of PSS, it has decided to do full 100%, remote learning, but still bringing in students who need "one-to-one interaction"—estimated at about 10% of PSS students who need additional help and are required to be in the classroom for a couple of hours on a daily basis. Each classroom will have 10 students or fewer.

This effectively means that PSS will have a combination of face-to-face and online learning, which is a hybrid learning.

Man indicted for withdrawing over $30,000 using fake ID

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A man was charged in federal court for withdrawing over $30,000 from a bank account of his brother who was in prison at the time.

An indictment charged Brian Galang Lizama with bank fraud and aggravated identity theft.

The indictment was filed on seal before the U.S. District Court for the NMI last July 30. It was unsealed Friday after Lizama was brought before the court. The court appointed Colin Thompson as his counsel.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation served the summons to Lizama last Aug. 3 at the Department of Corrections, where he is currently an inmate for burglary and theft, to appear in federal court Friday.

After the initial court appearance hearing, Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona ordered the U.S. Marshal to return Lizama to jail.

According to the indictment, between Dec. 23, 2019 and on Feb. 5, 2020 in the District of the NMI, Lizama fraudulently obtained a Saipan Mayor's Office identification card in the name of his brother who was in prison at the time. Lizama then used that identification card to make a series of withdrawals totaling over $30,000 from his brother's Bank of Guam savings account.

The U.S. government, through assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe, seeks forfeiture to the U.S. government of any property "constituting, or derived from, proceeds obtained" as a result of committing the offenses.

MCS offers tech support throughout remote learning

Last Monday, Aug. 17, 2020, Mount Carmel School began its 2020-2021 school year remotely through online learning. As the school prepares to begin face-to-face classes on Aug. 31, 2020, the school has also begun offering more tech support for students and parents. In particular, two teachers, Filmah Buenaflor and Randee-Jo Barcinas-Manglona, will provide parents and students with direct support.

Buenaflor is an instructor for Mount Carmel School's Algebra courses and Advanced Placement Computer Applications course. She has served as an educator for more than 17 years and has a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Portland, Oregon's Concordia University. In addition to her years of teaching experience, Buenaflor has continued to use a variety of online tools for instruction since joining the MCS community in 2010. These tools include MIT App Inventor, Adobe Creative Cloud, and Google Applications.

Barcinas-Manglona is not only MCS Composition and Creative Writing instructor but holds a master's degree in Education Technology. Barcinas-Manglona has helped many of her colleagues during this transition to online learning.

Members of the MCS community can schedule Tech Support Office Hours by emailing filmah.buenaflor@mcsknights.com or rb.manglona@mcsknights.com. In addition to offering direct support to parents and students, the school is providing electronic devices to students as needed, has upgraded its internet connectivity and bandwidth, and has begun developing other tools to help with learning, such as G-Suite and Google Classroom. ***(PR)***

AFTER 23 WITNESSES

Defense rests in trial of Ataligs

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

RELATED NEWS
- Judge precludes testimony of Atalig's expert witness. **PAGE 5**

After the testimony of its 23rd witness, the defense rested its case Friday in the ongoing jury trial in federal court of Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig and his girlfriend, Evelyn Atalig.

The jurors were instructed to return to the U.S. Courthouse today, Monday, at 9am, for the closing arguments, jury instructions, and jury deliberations.

The Ataligs did not testify.

The defense's final witness was former Rota Department of Public Safety resident director Eusebio Mendiola Manglona, who now works with Census of Guam and testified from Guam via video conference.

Manglona testified that, as then-Rota DPS resident chief attended a morning meeting on June 6, 2018 with Efraim Atalig and with other Rota resident directors in which they talked about looking for surplus equipment, possibly vehicles, at DRMO in Guam. DRMO refers to a U.S. Department of Defense Office formerly known as the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office, but is now called DLS Disposition Services. One function of this office is to sell surplus and used federal equipment.

Manglona said there was no talk about attending a political rally in Guam during that meeting. He said they were looking to obtain from DRMO free surplus vehicles because their vehicles at Rota DPS are breaking. Manglona said they were, however, not able to visit DRMO, but he can't recall why, only that, as they were driving toward DRMO, they learned that there's problem with going there.

Manglona also testified that, while in Guam, he visited the Guam Police Department because they've been talking about making arrangements for the K-9 training of Rota officers. He said it was only on the third day after they had left Rota for Guam when they learned about the GOP's political rally in Guam.

» Closing arguments today

Manglona said Efraim Atalig did not ask him to attend the political rally.

Regarding the Office of the Attorney General's filing of a criminal case in the Superior Court against Rota government officials, including himself, Manglona said the case against him is already done. Manglona said he did not plead guilty and that the case was dismissed.

He said he was only asked to pay the CNMI government back for the Guam trip.

In reply to assistant U.S. attorney Eric S. O'Malley's question during cross-examination, Manglona said he learned about the political rally through Facebook but denied he was part of a chat group that discussed the political rally.

He agreed with O'Malley that his travel authorization for the DRMO trip did not indicate the meeting with the Guam Police Department. He said the meeting for training and the planned visit to DRMO was like "hitting two birds in one stone."

Manglona said he was charged in the Superior Court with misconduct in public office and that, according to his lawyer, he just needs to pay back the money he spent and his case is done. He said the Superior Court case was resolved without him admitting to misconduct or pleading guilty.

Another defense witness last Friday, former acting director of the CNMI/Guam Medical Referral Services Ana Maria Inos, said she was aware that Efraim Atalig was going to Guam for the DRMO visit. Inos said her job at the time was to arrange the visit to DRMO, but she did not do it. She was busy, she said, and had a bad feeling about that trip.

During direct examination by Efraim Atalig's counsel David G. Banes, Inos agreed that she should have called DRMO to make the arrangements for the visit.

The prosecution and the defense agreed Friday that, if recalled to testify, Inos would testify that Efraim Atalig attended the funeral of Inos' grandfather in May 2018.

At the funeral, Efraim Atalig spoke to Inos and offered his condolences, and that Inos believed Efraim Atalig may have mentioned something to her about the upcoming June 2018 DRMO trip as well.

Sometime in June 2018, Inos said she knew there was a GOP rally the week of June 23, 2018, in Guam.

Inos' "bad feeling" about the mayor's trip to Guam stemmed from a belief, she said, that she would somehow be used as a pawn. This "bad feeling" was part of Inos' decision-making and was part of the reason she said "no" when asked to arrange the trip to DRMO.

In the U.S. government's opening statements, O'Malley said the June 2018 trip to Guam "started it all" as it was when the Office of the Public Auditor began the investigation. Atalig signed the travel authorizations for himself and other government employees to travel from Rota to Guam, as well as two TAs for plane charters.

O'Malley said the true purpose of the trip was not to visit the DRMO, but to attend a po-

See DEFENSE on Next Page

Detecting a leak: There are THREE ways to detect a gas leak (smell is the most common):

SMELL — To help you SMELL a gas leak, a familiar odor like rotten eggs is added to both natural gas and propane.
SEE — Near a leaking gas pipeline, you might SEE blowing dirt, bubbling water or an unusual area of dead vegetation.
HEAR — A leaking pipeline, appliance, storage tank or cylinder (propane only) might make a hissing sound you can HEAR.

If you ever suspect a gas leak, leave the area immediately. (Do not touch or use anything electric on your way out—not even a light switch or telephone.) Then, call your local gas provider or 9-1-1.

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6 indicted in CW-1 scheme

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REPORTER

A businessman and five other persons were indicted in three separate cases in federal court for allegedly defrauding U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services over applications for CW-1 non-immigrant visas.

The indictments charged businessman Barrie James Ladd, Hiron Mollah, Faroque Hosen, Servillano Soriano, Halim Khan, and Animul Islam with conspiracy to defraud the United States.

The indictments were filed under seal last July 30 and unsealed Thursday and Friday.

According to the indictments, the six defendants conspired to defraud the U.S. "for the purpose of impeding, impairing, obstructing, and defeating the lawful government functions" of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in its evaluation of application for CW-1 non-immigrant visas.

In the case against Ladd and Mollah, the conspiracy allegedly happened between Sept. 1, 2018, and April 16, 2019. In Hosen's case, the conspiracy allegedly happened between Oct. 1, 2019, and April 24, 2020. In the case against Soriano, Khan, and Islam, the conspiracy allegedly happened between Aug. 1, 2018, and Feb. 11, 2019.

As part of the alleged conspiracy, Misamis Construction Saipan Ltd., which is owned by Ladd, would submit a petition for a CW-1 visa that would falsely and fraudulently represent that a full-time employer-employee relationship exist between Misamis and Mollah when, in fact, no such relationship was allegedly intended, and that the primary purpose of the application was to obtain legal status for Mollah.

It was part of the conspiracy that a Saipan-based company would, in exchange for money, submit a petition for a CW-1 visa that would falsely represent that a full-time employee relationship would exist between that company and Hosen. In fact, the only alleged purpose of the application was to obtain legal status for Hosen.

It was also part of the conspiracy that RES International LLC would, in exchange for money, submit a petition for CW-1 visas that would make it appear that a full-time employer-employee relationship would exist between RES and the beneficiaries—which included Islam. Again, the primary purpose of the application was allegedly to obtain legal status for those beneficiaries.

Colin M. Thompson and Mark B. Hanson were appointed as court-appointed counsel for Ladd and Mollah, respectively. David G. Banes was appointed as counsel for Hosen. Hanson was appointed as counsel for Soriano. Bruce Berline and Robert T. Torres were appointed as counsel for Khan and Islam, respectively.

GUAM

From Page 1

34-year-old male with underlying health conditions.

According to Guam's Joint Information Center, the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority notified the JIC around 7:03pm last Aug. 21 that the latest fatality had an underlying health condition that was made worse by COVID-19 and was on a ventilator at GMHA for almost a month.

At 34 years old, he is Guam's youngest COVID-19 death to date. The victim had traveled to Guam from Hawaii.

Last Aug. 20, Guam's sixth COVID-19 death was a 70-year-old male who was pronounced dead on arrival around 5:14am, and was not a known COVID-19 case. Nonetheless, he was swabbed at GMHA and results came back positive.

In a video message. Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero extended her deepest condolences and sympathies. "COVID-19 has already taken so much from us in such a short period of time. Tonight, tell your family you love them and reach out to those close to your heart. As we mourn every life we have lost to this virus, our fight will continue," said Leon Guerrero.

Leon Guerrero

Based on the latest JIC advisory, a total of 53 persons tested positive for COVID-19 yesterday, Aug. 23, 2020, as of 10am. To date, there have been a total of 820 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Guam, with seven deaths, 394 not in isolation, and 419 cases in active isolation. Of those cases, 687 are classified as civilians and 133 are military service members.

For updated information on COVID-19 cases on Guam, visit the COVID-19 Dashboard and Situation Report at http://dphss.guam.gov/covid-19/.

The JIC also reported that Guam is now under a weeklong lockdown, which started last Aug. 21 at 12pm, and will continue through Aug. 28 at 12pm. The executive order stated that the government of Guam will be temporarily closed, as well as all business that aren't considered critical. Also, beaches and parks will not be open to the public and is closed to all activities.

"For those feeling anxious, stressed, overwhelmed or are needing to talk to someone, GBHWC has licensed experienced providers available, ready to assist the community with any heightened stress and anxiety experienced as a result of COVID-19," said JIC.

CURFEW

From Page 1

the new 4am to 10pm curfew, as well as the rest of the restrictions outlined in the new directive.

"We're implementing the new directive starting Monday so that both our community and our business partners understand that these directives are a serious matter and that the Enforcement Task Force will be going around. Their purpose is to not penalize you. Their purpose is to make sure that our public health is taken as a serious matter. They will be going around and making sure that businesses and also our community adhere to the directive," he said at a radio news briefing last Friday.

As part of strict enforcement of the curfew hours, the penalties for violating the curfew rules are as follows; first-time offense violators found in public, including individuals found driving on a public road during curfew hours, will be fined $200; second-time offense violators will be subject to a fine of $500; and the third-time or more will be subject to a fine of $750 or the impoundment of their vehicle by the Department of Public Safety.

Each passenger in the vehicle found driving on the public road during curfew hours will be subject to a fine of $100 for the first offense, $200 for the second offense, and $300 for the third or more offense.

Torres added that he will continue to make drastic changes if need be, based on recommendations of CNMI doctors, the COVID-19 Task Force, and first responders.

"There's a reason why decisions like these are made, because we've calculated what are the health risks. I will continue to make drastic changes and I will continue to make decisions that are based on doctor's recommendations, first responders' recommendations, as well as our task force recommendations. Our goal here has never wavered, that is our public health priority. We've seen other countries. We've seen South Korea increase by the thousands in one day. We've seen our neighboring island of Guam that reported 105 cases in one day. We're very blessed," he said.

Despite the changes, the CNMI remains under the Community Vulnerability Level Blue—one step away from Level Green, which is the safest level under the five-step color code being implemented by the CNMI.

According to press secretary Kevin Bautista, because of the significant increases on Guam, in Hawaii, the U.S. mainland, etc., the COVID-19 Task Force and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. have determined that the same measures that successfully protected the Commonwealth since the beginning of the pandemic must be reimplemented to prevent the further spread of the virus.

As part of the new directive, social gatherings of more than 10 people in a single room or single space are prohibited at the same time for social activities, including but not limited to community, civic, public leisure, or sporting events, parades, concerts, festivals, fiestas, conventions, fundraisers, and similar activities throughout the CNMI.

For churches, attendance is limited to 50% of allowed occupancy and maintaining social distancing and sanitation guidelines.

For the business hours, all businesses that have facilities open to the public shall only be open to the public from 4am to 9pm.

Initially, the occupancy rate for businesses under community Vulnerability Level Blue was at 75% of the occupancy rate. The new directive states that it must revert back to 50%.

All businesses engaged in gaming, including the casino, video poker establishment, and e-gaming facilities are closed to the public except as authorized to operate under an approved reopening plan by the governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

All public parks, public pathways, and public beaches are open only for outdoor recreation for the purposes of exercise and wellness, both physical and mental, and in shoreline subsistence fishing such as net fishing, rod and reel and commercial fishing activities, subject to social distancing requirements.

Social gatherings in public parks, public pathways, and the public beaches are temporarily prohibited under the temporary restrictions.

All public and private schools in the Commonwealth shall remain closed for in-person instruction, and activities until further notice.

700

From Page 1

pan—were reburied last Friday at the site where they were dug up—at the Imperial Palace Saipan in Garapan.

To mark the occasion, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres ordered that all CNMI flags in the CNMI be lowered to half-staff and the non-profit group 300 Sails, which is trying to revive the CNMI's ancient sailing tradition, participated in the ceremony by sailing three traditional canoes, called *proa*, to the beachside of the site.

Torres

The CNMI Historic Prevention Office, in partnership with Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, led the poignant reburial ceremony. HPO administrator Rita Chong said the agency went to great lengths to make the ceremony as culturally authentic as possible.

"The preparation of the remains took about three weeks. HPO staff prepared all the remains, cleaned them, we put them in cloth bags, and in woven baskets that were then placed at the burial place," she said. "We were able to reach out to all government agencies for assistance to rebury the remains."

To ensure that the remains were reburied according to tradition, Chong said the ceremony was followed by old rituals. "We had already designed various templates that are culturally sensitive so we didn't want to do a modern burial, and researched and found out what their burial rituals were," she said.

During the ceremony, there was *kulu* (conch) chanting, a ceremony by the water, and singing They had about 20 *kulu* blowers ranging in age from 8 to 65.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' senior policy adviser, Robert Hunter, was also present at the ceremony and thanked IPI and HPO for finally returning the islands' forebears to their rightful resting place. "We are really thankful for the support of those who helped out with this ceremony. It's been the Department of Community and Cultural Affair policy that we are not going to let ancestral remains be sitting for years. We owe them a respectful reburial."

Torres echoed Hunter's message and is grateful for the ceremony held for the reburial. "This is very sentimental and now that I feel comfortable about having our ancestors get the time to have a proper ceremony so that their souls can rest in peace," he said.

500 Sails was also able to give a beautiful ceremony by having three sailboats out to the waters and having *kulus* blown while sailing out.

IPI CEO Donald Browne said the company is glad to have contributed its part to the reburial. "This is a very proud moment for us and the people of the CNMI to reinter the remains of their ancestors. You can see a lot of people are very emotional and HPO did a very good job with the event, I am happy about it." ***(Chevy Alipio)***

DEFENSE

From Page 3

litical rally on June 23, 2018.

The total amount of payments from the CNMI government in that Guam trip exceeded $10,000, according to the indictment.

Among other trips cited were the travel from Rota to San Diego, California to "attend 9th Annual Chamorro Cultural Festival in March 2018; travel from Rota to Saipan "to promote tourism and to attend the 23rd Micronesia Islands Forum and the Flame Tree Festival" in April 2018; travel from Rota to Palau "to promote tourism in Palau" in May 2018; and travel from Rota to Saipan "to attend the Agriculture Fair in Saipan" in August 2018.

Efraim Atalig, acting in his official capacity, allegedly arranged such government-funded trips for himself and other persons, including Evelyn Atalig, by means of false claims and under fraudulent pretenses.

The remaining charges against the Ataligs are conspiracy to commit wire fraud, wire fraud, and false statement.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona is presiding over the case.

Judge precludes testimony of Atalig's expert witness

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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted Thursday the U.S. government's motion to preclude testimony of Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig's expert witness, former Federal Bureau of Investigation agent and federal criminal investigator Dr. Gregory Vecchi.

Manglona made the ruling after she granted Evelyn Atalig's motion to strike surplusage from Count 5 of the indictment that charged her with false statement. Surplusage refers in this case to matter that is not necessary or relevant to the case.

Steven Pixley, counsel for Evelyn Atalig, moved to strike some wordings in the false statement count as the parties argued whether or not to preclude Vecchi's testimony.

Pixley asked the court to strike or remove from the false statement count any reference to Evelyn Atalig stating she stayed with her sister in Guam when, in fact, she stayed in a hotel with Efraim Atalig, which Office of the Public Auditor Travis Hurst had testified.

Assistant U.S. attorney Eric S. O'Malley, counsel for the U.S. government, did not object to Pixley's motion.

Count 5 that refers to false statement against Evelyn Atalig states that on Aug. 10, 2018, in the District of the NMI, Evelyn Atalig lied to a special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that the purpose of the trip was to meet with DLA Disposition Services and was an official trip, and that she stayed with her sister in Guam when, in fact, she stayed in a hotel with Efraim M. Atalig and the purpose of the trip was personal and political, and not official.

Manglona directed the jurors to return Friday for the resumption of the trial of Efraim and Evelyn Atalig.

The defense called several witnesses Thursday.

Rota Department of Public Safety resident director Glenn Maratita testified that he, at that time a member of the CNMI House of Representative, joined Efraim and Evelyn Atalig in a trip to San Diego for the Chamorro Cultural Festival in March 2018.

Maratita said she saw the Ataligs at the event, in which Evelyn Atalig was offering leis to people who attended the festival. He said he also saw Mayor Atalig visited a hospital in San Diego and also handed a resolution of appreciation to a person for volunteering for medical referral.

Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Anthony T. Benavente testified that he saw the Ataligs at the one-day Agricultural Fair on Saipan in August 2018. Benavente said it was raining hard on that day and that he approached the mayor and asked him to join them for lunch.

In the U.S. government's brief in the motion to preclude Vecchi's testimony, assistant attorney general Garth Backe said that prior to trial, on May 1, 2020, defendants provided the following notice in regards to Vecchi's anticipated testimony: "Dr. Vecchi is expected to testify that th investigation of this case exhibits confirmation bias against the defendants on the part of the government investigators (primarily but not solely FBI special agent Haejun Park); that this government investigators (primarily Park) improperly influenced and threatened witnesses; and that the government investigators (primarily Park) failed to conform to accepted investigative standards and practices."

Backe said the U.S. government has now rested and that during its presentation of evidence, the government never presented any evidence regarding interviews done by its investigators (other than the interviews of the defendants themselves). He said it never presented any evidence that some witnesses admitted to initially lying during their interviews. He said the jury never heard Efraim Atalig "confessed to initially lying and admitted that the real reason for the trip to Guam was to attend a GOP political rally," or that Efraim Atalig "apologized for lying and was remorseful."

Perhaps, most importantly, Park never took the stand, Backe said.

He said if Vecchi is allowed to testify, the jury will have to focus on the actions of a witness they never heard from, regarding events that occurred months (sometimes years) after the offenses alleged in the superseding indictment.

In Efraim Atalig's opposition, David Banes said the defense seeks to elicit testimony from Vecchi impeaching the government's investigation of the defendants. Banes said that Vecchi's testimony is relevant to testimony that has already been given at trial, particularly by OPA investigator Travis Hurst. Banes said the government tries to make it appear that Vecchi's testimony would relate solely to Park, who did not testify.

"Dr. Vecchi's testimony as at least as relevant to Hurst's testimony as it would have been to Park's," he said, adding that Vecchi's testimony is proper because it goes to Hurst's bias.

The prosecution alleged that the Ataligs went on a lot of CNMI-funded trips in 2018 with the primary, if not the only purpose, was personal and not official.

The prosecution cited eight trips taken by the Ataligs at different times in 2018 to Guam, Palau, the U.S. mainland, South Korea, and Saipan.

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NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) hereby gives notice that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, August 27, 2020, at 2:30 p.m. in the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Classroom at the Airport Fire Station at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan. The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:g:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes (July 01, 2020)

II. PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

III. CORRESPONDENCES

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS
1. Financial Affairs Committee
2. Airport Facilities Committee
3. Seaport Facilities Committee
4. Personnel Affairs Committee

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

VI. OLD BUSINESS
1. Lease: United Cargo Facility

VII. NEW BUSINESS
1. Fiscal Year 2021 Budget
2. Adoption of CPA Rules and Regulations:
   a. Procurement
   b. Airport
   c. Seaport
3. Tenant Leases – Additional abatement (July to December 2020)
4. Supplemental Budget Requests:
   a. Seaport Boat
   b. Tinian HAZMAT Trailer
5. Tinian International Airport – Advertising
   a. Scope of Concession
   b. Procurement Method
6. Hazardous Pay
7. Wharfage Deferment

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- Legal Counsel Reports: Legal matters/Litigation

IX. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

X. ADJOURNMENT

Tune in online as we stream live on the Commonwealth Ports Authority's Facebook page. Written testimony on the agenda items must be sent via email before the meeting to cpa.admin@pticom.com. Attendees (in person) must wear a mask and practice social distancing.

Kimberlyn King-Hinds
Chairwoman, Board of Directors

August 20, 2020

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. Box 500514, Saipan , MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp I Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Special Board Meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, August 26, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance. Not more than ten (10) people are allowed in the conference room and social distancing will be enforced.

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
   a. Call to Order
   b. Roll Call
   c. Adoption of Agenda

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
   a. Divisional Update

IV. OLD BUSINESS
   a. CDBG-DR Action Plan
   b. Personnel Matters

V. NEW BUSINESS

VI. LEGAL COUNSEL'S PENDING/ONGOING REPORT

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VIII. OTHER MATTERS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

(Notes: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13 (a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/
Vinney Atalig-Hocog
Chairman of the Board

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPENING DATE: August 14, 2020 CLOSING DATE: August 31, 2020 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

NMHC JVA NO.	Positions:	Salary:
2020-006	RE-ANNOUNCEMENT CDBG-DR Compliance Specialist-Tinian Field Office (1-Position)	UNGRADED $25,000.00 to $30,000.00- per annum
2020-007	CDBG-DR Administrative Manager (1-Position)	UNGRADED $50,000.00 to $60,000.00-per annum
2020-008	CDBG-DR Loan Supervisor (1- Position)	UNGRADED $40,000.00 to $45,000.00-per annum
2020-009	CDBG-DR Loan Specialist (4-Positions)	UNGRADED $25,000.00 to $30,000.00-per annum
2020-010	CDBG-DR Compliance Specialist (2-Positions)	UNGRADED $25,0000.00-$30,000.00- per annum
2020-011	Accounting Clerk (1-Position)	$19,294.00-$21,278.40- per annum

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information can be accessed at www.nmhcgov.net.

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the NMHC Tinian Field Office, San Jose; Drop-off application at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; or email application and documents to officemanager@nmhcgov.net.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net . NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/
JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

Mike Sablan named Civilian Aide to Secretary of the Army

Sablan

WASHINGTON, D.C.—During a virtual ceremony on Aug. 18, 2020, at the Pentagon, Secretary of the Army Ryan D. McCarthy appointed Michael Sablan, a resident of Saipan, as a Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army, or CASA.

McCarthy thanked Sablan for his willingness to serve. "These are unprecedented times and the Army is fortunate to have you in the community interacting with civic leaders, educators and businesses," said McCarthy. "We have found that there is a dramatic correlation with CASAs and an increase recruitment. CASAs are a valuable asset in the community and help make a difference"

CASAs, a vital part of the Army, promote good relations between the Army and the public and advise the secretary on regional issues.

Each state, the District of Columbia, and the five U.S. territories have one or more CASAs to provide vital links between the Army and the communities they serve. CASAs are usually business or civic leaders who possess a keen interest in the welfare of the Army and their communities.

CASAs serve a two-year term without compensation. Terms may be extended to a total of 10 years of service. The secretary may recognize a civilian aide as a CASA emeritus after 10 years of distinguished service.

"It's an honor to have been selected," said Sablan, a graduate of University of California Los Angeles and a licensed certified public accountant who currently serves as vice president of Triple J Enterprises. "The CASA position provides a vital platform to articulate the Army's mission and strengthen bonds with the local community. As home to proud Americans in the insular areas, the CNMI and the other territories have among the highest rates of military service in the nation. I intend to continue to honor their service by working to strengthen relationships within our military and civilian leadership." ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

5.0-magnitude quake on Pagan

At 5:45am on Aug. 23, 2020, a report of a 5.0-magnitude earthquake occurred 31 miles north northeast of Pagan in the Northern Mariana islands. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information contact the EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. ***(PR)***

4.8-magnitude quake on Saipan

At 10:30am on Aug. 21, 2020, a report of a 4.8-magnitude earthquake occurred 253 kilometers northeast of Saipan in the Northern Mariana Islands. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. ***(PR)***

4.7-magnitude quake in Guam

At 4:17am on Aug. 22, 2020, a report of a 4.7-magnitude earthquake occurred 134 kilometers south-southwest of Merizo village in Guam. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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NOTICE OF BOARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that there will Board Committee Meetings on Thursday, August 27, 2020, beginning 9:30 a.m. in the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Classroom at the Airport Fire Station, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan.

AGENDA

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (June 18, 2020)
II. Public Comments
III. Old Business:
1. Fiscal Year 2021 Budget
2. Adoption of Procurement Regulations

IV. New Business:
1. Tenant Leases - Additional abatement (July to December 2020)
2. Supplemental Request - Seaport Boat
3. Supplemental Request - Tinian HAZMAT Trailer
4. Updated Committee Report

V. Executive Session (if needed)
VI. Miscellaneous/Announcements
VII. Adjournment

AIRPORT FACILITIES COMMITTEE

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (June 18, 2020)
II. Public Comments
III. Old Business:
1. Solar updates
2. Mobil
3. Lease: United Cargo Facility
4. Adoption of Airport Regulations

IV. New Business:
1. Power Plant 3 Presentation for Saipan and Rota
2. Tinian International Airport - Advertising
   a. Scope of Concession
   b. Procurement Method
3. Updated Committee Report

V. Executive Session (if needed)
VI. Miscellaneous/Announcements
VII. Adjournment

PERSONNEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (June 18, 2020)
II. Public Comments
III. Old Business - None.
1. Hazardous Pay
2. Employee Performance Evaluation Form (Amended

IV. New Business:
1. Updated Committee Report

V. Executive Session (if needed)
VI. Miscellaneous/Announcements
1. Organizational Chart

VII. Adjournment

SEAPORT FACILITIES COMMITTEE

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (June 18, 2020)
II. Public Comments
III. Old Business:
1. Industrial Drive status update
2. Tinian Marine Stevedore
3. Saipan Stevedore Lease
4. Echo Dock
5. Adoption of Seaport Regulations

IV. New Business:
1. Wharfage Deferment
2. Bridge Investment Group's Multi-Purpose building (barracks)
3. Updated Committee Report

V. Executive Session (if needed)
VI. Miscellaneous/Announcements
VII. Adjournment

Tune in online as we stream live on the Commonwealth Ports Authority's Facebook page. Written testimony on the agenda items must be sent via email before the meeting to cpa.admin@pticom.com. Attendees (in person) must wear a mask and practice social distancing.

Barrie C. Toves, Airport Facilities Chair
Ramon A. Tebuteb, Financial Affairs Chair
Pete P. Reyes, Seaport Facilities Chair
Joseph M. Diaz, Personnel Affairs Chair

COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237, Saipan, MP 96950
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AGENDA

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Commission's 2nd Floor Main Conference Room at the Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai, Saipan.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

I. PRELIMINARIES:
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda
D. Adoption of Minutes: July 30, 2020

II. REPORTS:
A. Report by the Chairman
B. Report by the Acting Executive Director

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

IV. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:
A. Casino Licensee — Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC ("IPI"):
1. Update on construction of Imperial Pacific Resort & Hotel ("IPR")
2. Update on IPI Personnel and other HR Matters:
   a) Organizational Chart Update
   b) Status of Employee Payroll (including CW-1 payroll & repatriation)
   c) Status of Employee Housing
3. IPI Financial Matters.
   a) Annual Casino License Fee
   b) Casino Regulatory Fee

B. Other Miscellaneous Matters

V. OLD BUSINESS:
A. Update on House Bill No. 21-11, HS1, SD1, SD3
B. Update on IPI's Compliance with Commission Order No. 2020-003 and No. 2020-004
C. Other Old Business Matters

VI. NEW BUSINESS:
A. Renewal of Application for Regular Casino Service Provider License (2-years). Jade Entertainment and Gaming Technologies, Inc. Manufacturer and distributor of casino gaming equipment, devices and/or other related gaming goods. Regular License will expire on 09/14/20.
B. Other New Business Matters

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
A. Report by Legal Counsel
B. Report by the CCC Audit and Compliance Division

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission reserves the right to amend this agenda and take action on the amended agenda pursuant to 1 CMC §9910 (b). Pursuant to 1 CMC §9912 (a)(7) and 1 CMC §9912 (c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day or more, if necessary. For those interested in joining or attending the videoconference, please contact the Commission at info@cnmicasinocommission.com for instructions on how to log-in to the conference site.

/s/ Edward C. DeLeon Guerrero
Chairman

LAOLAO BAY GOLF & RESORT

Job Vacancy Announcements
OPEN UNTIL FILLED
(Recruiting U.S. Workers Only)

- **Greens keeper**
  - o Starting Salary: $7.25
  - o Three (3) Full Time Positions
  - o Requirements: High School Diploma or equivalent with two (2) years of experience as a greens keeper or landscaper of a golf course required (as maintaining the greens of a golf course is significantly different from regular landscaping functions.) Must be highly dependable & punctual. Must be able to work outdoors (exposed to nature's elements, for extended periods of time.) Must be able to lift at least 50lbs. Must be able to work early mornings, weekends, and holidays.
- **Heavy Equipment Mechanic**
  - o Starting Salary: $8.00
  - o One (1) Full Time Position
  - o Requirements: High School Diploma or equivalent with one (1) year of experience as a Heavy Equipment Mechanic. Expertise on heavy equipment maintenance. Ability to develop and maintain awareness of occupational hazards and safety precautions; skilled in following safety practices and recognizing hazards Must be highly dependable & punctual. Must be able to work outdoors (exposed to nature's elements, for extended periods of time.) Must be able to lift at least 50lbs. Must be able to work early mornings, weekends, and holidays. Must have knowledge/skills in the following: Repairing, Troubleshooting, Equipment Maintenance, Operation Monitoring, Operation and Control.
- **Golf Course Mechanic Supervisor**
  - o Starting Salary: To be determined based qualifications.
  - o One (1) Full Time Position
  - o Requirements: High school diploma or equivalent and two (2) years of work experience as a mechanic supervisor. Must be highly reliable as this position may require them to respond to emergencies. Must be able to lift over 50 lbs. Must be able to work in hot or less-than-desired conditions. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays.
- **Building Maintenance Assistants:**
  - o Salary: $ 7.25
  - o Two (2) Part Time Positions (Full Time Status upon completing four (4) months probation.)
  - o Requirements: High school diploma with at least one (1) year experience as a semi-skilled worker in one or more of the basic building maintenance trades. Must be able to operate a forklift, light truck and other related motorized equipment. Must be able to work outdoors (exposed to nature's elements, for extended periods of time.) Must be able to lift at least 50lbs. Must be able to work early mornings, weekends, and holidays. Must have knowledge/skills in the following: Repairing, Troubleshooting, Equipment Maintenance, Operation Monitoring, Operation and Control.
- **Building Maintenance (HVAC Technician):**
  - o Starting Salary: $8.00
  - o One (1) Part Time Position (Full Time Status upon completing four (4) months probation.)
  - o Requirements: High School diploma or equivalent with two (2) years of work experience in this field. Must be highly reliable as this position may require them to respond to emergencies. Must be able to work outdoors (exposed to nature's elements, for extended periods of time.) Must be able to lift at least 50lbs. Must be able to work early mornings, weekends, and holidays. Must have knowledge/skills in the following: Repairing, Troubleshooting, Equipment Maintenance, Operation Monitoring, Operation and Control.

Applicants must pick up/drop off Employment Application at the Front Desk of the hotel located in Kagman III. Application submission hours are Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 1:00 pm.
Tel: 670-236-8888 // Fax: 670-236-8881 // Email: jsambile@laolaobaygolf.com

A COLLECTION OF ARTICLES WRITTEN BY THE DCRM SUMMER INTERNS OF 2020

FROM RIDGE TO REEF

WILEEN MONGAMI
2020 Summer Intern
DCRM Watersheds

A NOVEL EXPERIENCE IN SAIPAN'S WETLANDS

We're always collecting new knowledge and experiences - even in a pandemic. As an intern with the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM), I spent the summer conducting wetland assessments and learning about watershed management in the CNMI. My main duty was to collect data on the health and function of Saipan's wetlands. The project itself is important because it can help determine if a wetland is healthy and functional, and if not, why? The key is to look for the natives - a healthy wetland habitat consists of many different native plant and animal species.

As an intern, I got the chance to create a herbarium - a collection of dried plants used for identification - under the guidance of my mentor's Zak Williams, DCRM Watershed Coordinator, and Ilan Bubb, National Coral Management Fellow. To make a herbarium you first flatten a collected specimen in order to preserve the plant. A plant sample is taken either by the roots or by clipping it from the stem up, the leaves should be included as well. The sample should be pressed on the same day it was collected to preserve its shape and color. After a couple of days in the plant press, the specimen is removed, glued to a sheet of paper, labeled, and placed in the herbarium which can then be used as a reference guide to help identify the different types of plants that grow in and around a wetland. These plants are important because they help prevent soil erosion, provide habitats for animals, and act as a filter for ocean pollution.

As part of the internship, we also took part in different experiential learning activities such as sea grass monitoring with the CNMI Marine Monitoring Team, stream hikes with DEQ's Water Quality section, invasive plant removal with MINA, and many others. From this experience I was able to meet new and interesting people through our cohort of interns and learn from experts in the fields of conservation and natural resource management.

COLE CHAMBERS
2020 Summer Intern
Division of Fish & Wildlife

SO MANY PLANTS SO LITTLE TIME

One tree, two trees, green tree, mango tree! Observing and identifying vegetation can yield insight into the surrounding ecosystem.

Just as a person may scan the forests looking for tall trees in hopes of finding a fruiting mango tree, biologists rely on identifying vegetation to grasp the nuances of the surrounding area. Within the CNMI, there are a plethora of different types of plants.

Even the most veteran and skilled botanist would struggle to know every single plant and its characteristics. Knowing the types of plants in a given area can help resource managers determine where conservation efforts should be targeted. I was tasked with creating a herbarium to assist ornithologists at the Division of Fish and Wildlife with vegetation identification.

A herbarium is a preserved collection of plants, mainly leaves, that have been pre-identified. Biologists can use a herbarium to familiarize themselves with particular plant species or bring back an unknown sample of a plant and then try to match it with one in the herbarium. Another tool biologists use to identify plants are field guides that contain images and descriptions of plants such as Trees and Shrubs of the Northern Mariana Islands (Raulerson & Rinehart, 2018). However, the photos in these books sometimes do not provide the level of detail needed to accurately identify plants; it is in these situations that a herbarium is most helpful. One item that I included on each page in the herbarium is whether or not the species is native, naturalized, or invasive. This distinction is important because invasive plants can push out and endanger native plants.

Unfortunately, creating a herbarium that holds all of the plant species found in the Marianas is unrealistic within the eight week time period. First, I had to learn how to create a herbarium. The tools I needed to accomplish this were a plant press (to preserve the plants), newspaper and cardboard (to separate the plants in the press), and mounting paper and glue (to put it all together). Each plant took a different amount of time to finish pressing, depending on the leaf's thickness, with most taking over a week to finish. This did not leave much room for error. Although I could not gather all plants in the Marianas, I was able to gather around 30 of the more common trees, ferns, and a couple of endangered plants. This will help biologists in the CNMI with the identification of plants in the future.

FOR PROGRAM INFORMATION AND HOW TO APPLY FOR THE 2021 COHORT VISIT WWW.DCRM.GOV.MP

@CNMIDCRM @GOINGCOASTAL_CNMI

Opinion

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EDITORIAL

Citizens United 10 years on

American politics is the most expensive game in the world. You have to pay to play.

Private interests with the means to pay are uniquely positioned to influence political outcomes. Politicians meanwhile must ingratiate themselves to a tiny fraction of the electorate who can fund their political careers.

That system was in play long before 2010; however, the Supreme Court's decision in the Citizens United case broke the corporate dam, and with it the trust of the American people.

Since the early 20th century, American courts consistently ruled that corporations were subject to restrictions during campaign seasons, and legislation prevented them from paying directly for political advertisements. The Roberts court deemed this unconstitutional on the grounds that banning such advertising is a violation of free speech rights.

Citizens United gave corporations the same privilege wealthy individuals won in the Buckley v. Valeo decision in 1976: unlimited spending. For decades the affluent have been able to pay to see their ideology translated into public policy, and to block any reform seen as threatening to the status quo.

Democracy in America is responsive to deep pockets, and because unlimited spending on political advertisements is now protected by freedom of speech, the deepest pockets—whether in human or corporate form—can advertise us to death. Further, the system obliges members of Congress, and candidates for office, including presidents, to focus "less and less on raising money from all of us," Harvard professor and author Lawrence Lessig said, "and more and more on raising money from just a few of us."

Americans overwhelmingly support limits on political campaign spending, and strong majorities of both liberals and conservatives in the electorate believe that the Supreme Court has given corporations too much power. A Pew Research Center study released earlier this year revealed that 8 in 10 Americans believe that corporations and wealthy people have too much influence over policy decisions.

We've come to expect little from Congress even absent a global pandemic, but it is from Congress that these changes must come—if we want to stop relying on the courts to decide our political regulations. There is no fix—easy, quick or otherwise.

More than anything, the wildly unpopular Citizens United decision was an affirmation that money was driving the whole system. That is fundamentally undemocratic. We must start by admitting that.

(c) 2020 *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

OF COURSE I WANT TRUMP TO BE REELECTED.
BANNON
IS IT BECAUSE I THINK HE'LL DRAIN THE SWAMP? NAW.
OR BUILD THE WALL? NAW.
OR FIGHT THE DEEP STATE? NAW.
IT'S BECAUSE...
I MAY NEED A PARDON.
FRAUD CHARGES
MIKE SMITH
LAS VEGAS SUN 2020
DIST. BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE/HEARST

China is desperate to stop Hong Kong's pro-democracy movement. Now it's even blaming foreign groups

By KENNETH ROTH
Los Angeles Times

Kenneth Roth is executive director of Human Rights Watch. @KenRoth

Last week I was "sanctioned" by the Chinese government, whatever that means, along with six members of Congress and the leaders of four other U.S.-based human rights organizations.

It's unclear what the sanctions will actually do, but the Chinese government said they were a tit-for-tat response to Washington's recent imposition of sanctions on Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam and 10 other officials in Hong Kong and mainland China for their role in the continuing crackdown on Hong Kong's freedoms and rule of law.

The sanctions against me and the other Americans are a plain effort by Beijing to claim that the people of Hong Kong are being manipulated by foreigners. They are also an effort to divert attention from Beijing's intensifying repression.

The sanctions were announced just hours after Hong Kong police arrested the pro-democracy publisher Jimmy Lai and raided the headquarters of his independent and popular Apple Daily. On the same day, nine others were arrested, including Lai's two sons and pro-democracy activist Agnes Chow. All were accused of posing threats to "national security," although the only conceivable threat was to the Chinese Communist Party's plans to take away Hong Kong residents' rights.

More insidiously, the sanctions represent Beijing's latest efforts to rewrite the reality of the Hong Kong pro-democracy protests. One can never be certain of what Chinese President Xi Jinping thinks, but by all indications he sees the protests as a profound threat because they show what people really believe when given the freedom to say so.

The Chinese Communist Party likes to present itself as governing with the consent of the people. It claims the Chinese on the mainland welcome its rule despite the brutal repression, the silencing of dissent and the absence of real elections.

Hong Kong gives the lie to that pretense. It shows that when given the opportunity to express themselves, the people want freedom, the rule of law, human rights and democracy, like people everywhere. They have expressed that desire by periodically taking to the streets in enormous numbers. And they showed it in November when pro-democracy candidates won local elections overwhelmingly. That electoral showing seems to be why Lam's government has disqualified pro-democracy candidates for Hong Kong's Legislative Council and, in any event, postponed those elections for a year.

What better way to try to neutralize the power of Hong Kong's example than by pretending that the city's pro-democracy movement is the result of nefarious foreign influences? That is apparently why Lai was accused of "collusion with foreign forces," as if this leading Hong Kong businessman who has devoted his life to the pro-democracy cause would need foreign guidance. Chow faced similar accusations even though she has spent a third of her life seeking democracy for Hong Kong, starting when she was 15.

That is also why Beijing imposed sanctions on me and the others for supposedly having "behaved badly" toward Hong Kong. I received a taste of this scapegoating when Beijing barred me from entering the semiautonomous Chinese territory in January to release Human Rights Watch's annual World Report, in which my introductory essay spotlighted Beijing's assault on human rights. The Chinese government contended then that Human Rights Watch was "responsible for political unrest in Hong Kong," as if we have the capacity to mobilize 2 million Hong Kong people to take to the streets.

Aside from condescendingly painting the people of Hong Kong as having no agency on their own, the thought is laughable to anyone who has met Hong Kong's brave pro-democracy activists or seen the vast pro-democracy protests on the city's streets. But Beijing's intended audience isn't informed observers. It's the rest of the people across China.

Beijing has apparently calculated that one of the best ways to prevent Hong Kong's democracy movement from spreading

See CHINA on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Post office paranoia

By RICH LOWRY
King Features Synd., Inc.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

At this rate, Postmaster General Louis DeJoy will be lucky if he isn't arrested and tried for treason before a people's tribunal.

According to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, DeJoy is a "complicit crony" aiding Trump's efforts to sabotage American democracy. She believes the two have hatched a plot to delay mail-in voting and disenfranchise countless Americans prior to the election.

In tried-and-true fashion, President Trump has stoked suspicions by saying that he opposes a $25 billion Postal Service bailout in the latest Democratic COVID-19 relief bill. According to Trump, blocking this measure—and $3 billion in election aid to the states—will prevent universal mail-in voting. But the bailout doesn't have anything to do with mail-in voting, and given the billions of pieces of mail handled by the post office every week, it surely can handle the increased volume from mail-in voting.

It is true that Postmaster General DeJoy is a major Trump donor. He made his fortune in shipping and logistics, though, and he was selected by the Postal Service's board of governors.

Little did he know, when he took over the agency in June, that he'd soon have a starring role in the country's latest psychodrama. Every change at the Postal Service is now seen through the prism of a belief that the agency is a tool of creeping authoritarianism.

Letter collection boxes are being removed—never mind that this has been an ongoing process for years. Underutilized boxes are decommissioned or moved to higher-traffic areas. In 2009, the Washington Post reported that 200,000 boxes had been shelved over the past two decades. In 2016, the inspector general noted that another 12,000 collection boxes had been cut over the previous five years.

Letter collection boxes all of a sudden have big, red locks on them—well, yeah, as an off-hours device to prevent the theft of mail, also something the Postal Service has done for years.

The Postal Service is deactivating mail-sorting machines—right, and there was a plan for this prior to DeJoy becoming postmaster general, and it has long been discussed in response to the declining volume of mail.

DeJoy is cutting back on overtime—indeed he is, because artificially swollen overtime is an enormous expense that he hopes to eliminate with a more rational delivery system.

Democrats and much of the media make it sound as though the post office was an efficient, smooth-running agency before DeJoy took charge. In reality, the post office has lost nearly $80 billion since 2007, and it lost more than $2 billion last quarter. Unless the service finds a way to innovate, it is headed for bankruptcy.

This is the impetus for DeJoy's reforms, which should be welcomed by all the people now caterwauling about how essential the post office is to the American way of life.

DeJoy has been adamant that the Postal Service will do its job regarding mail-in ballots. The post office's recent warnings to states that they should be mindful of how quickly ballots can be delivered were intended to avoid unrealistically late deadlines for mail-in voting that could create a train wreck in November.

But in their inflamed state, Democrats want a villain. If not a foreign potentate, then the guy in charge of delivering the mail.

Taking my daughter to college during the pandemic felt like a high-wire act

By SUSAN BALLER-SHEPARD
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

My daughter Lizzie fell in love with the circus after her first circus camp. A nod to the Taylor side of the family, I grew up traveling to see Phineas Taylor Barnum sites. I thought in adulthood, I'd be done with the circus. Yet, here's my daughter, in love with the Russian swing, the German wheel, unicycles and diablos, all things circus.

Balancing Lizzie's belongings on the curb recently, taking her to college in a pandemic, has felt like a circus act.

I remembered a time at a circus camp show, on the low trapeze when Lizzie was doing a flip with a harness. It was 95 degrees. The upside-down catcher swung down to catch Lizzie, and she slipped through his hands. She was falling headfirst toward the mat below her, and was pulled up just in time by the harness. She skimmed the surface of the mat, like an airplane doing a "touch and go." She got a rug burn, but no other visible injury.

When we dropped Lizzie off at college, I wondered if, like the trapeze, it would be too dangerous.

I wanted to scream, "I'm doing the best I can!"

But am I? Was I?

I take vows very seriously. When we adopted our daughter, I vowed to a judge in a courtroom that I would be a good mother to Lizzie. I also made vows about parenting her at her baptism. The two times I've wanted her birth mother's input were at her baptism and this dorm drop-off.

"I swear, I'm doing the best I can," I want to tell her.

Our first two children were biological. The first was born with a face that cried out, "Not this again." His expressions were, and still are, those of an elderly gentleman.

When the nurse took him to the nursery in the hospital, I thought, "Oh my God, I don't have him memorized. What if they get him confused with the others?"

We were wearing matching plastic bracelets, but still, what if?

I hadn't memorized all of him. I knew his soul, like a mother intuits the soul of the baby she's carried for nine months. I felt like I had the honor of being this baby's mother, and already I'd dropped the ball. Already I'd failed. They could bring me someone else's baby, and would I think it was mine? Would I get them confused?

Bring him back, bring him back, bring him back! I wanted to cry

Our second child was born with a shock of black hair and dark eyes.

"Well, who are you?" I wondered. His hospital photo looks like he's talking on a telephone. As a baby, I'd go to pick him up from his crib and he'd be in his room smiling. That's still his default face.

To adopt our daughter took two years. In November 2002, we received our dossier, we had a birth name, a birth place, a birth date. We had photos. I worked hard to memorize everything about Lizzie. I wanted to know her like I'd known the boys.

I wonder at our good fortune. I got to be in the presence of this child, raise her for 18 years. It was at great cost to her birth mother, which is never far from my mind. I got to be the one raising our daughter. I had the circumstances to allow for that, she did not.

At circus camp, I saw the camp director was having Lizzie get up and try again. I could feel the heat of tears dripping onto my already sweat-damp dress. I smiled at Lizzie and gave her a thumbs-up. If she was trying again, I wanted her all in.

I didn't want to watch. Yet, I was riveted. She climbed the ladder, I could tell by the tilt of her head, by the curve of her back that she was nervous. She took the trapeze bar, swung out, let go, flipped, the upside-down guy caught her, and then they lowered her to the ground with the harness.

I could not stop crying.

Now I wish I could tell her birth mother, "Look at our girl! Look at who she's become! She's a wonder."

Lizzie's friends say that she's their memory, she remembers everything. They call and say, "Remember when this happened, who was there?" Lizzie will recall it all as if it happened yesterday. I know in some part of her resides memory of her birth mother.

I want her birth mother to know that our girl is shining.

At the end of Lizzie's circus acts, she comes forward on the mat and puts her hands in the air. Ta-dah! Always, she is smiling.

The Rev. Susan Baller-Shepard is an essayist, teacher, preacher and poet. She is the author of a poetry collection, Doe.

CHINA

From Page 8

to the mainland and jeopardizing the Communist Party's rule is to make it seem foreign. Given the mainland's highly censored media environment, Beijing seems to hope that any snippets of news that people in China might nonetheless receive about Hong Kong—or any ideas about rights—can be countered by the foreign-influence explanation.

Xi Jinping likes to present himself as a strongman with boundless strength and confidence. But a dictatorship built on such lies is brittle. So, in a sense, I welcome Beijing's sanctions, not only because I am proud to stand behind Hong Kong's pro-democracy activists, but also because the sanctions demonstrate how powerful their message is.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Depriving kids of an education

Since the pandemic started the world has been upside down. People are out of work, businesses have shut down, tourism doesn't exist, and kids are not in school. Some countries are handling it better than others. Here in the CNMI, in my opinion, they have done a great job up until this point. We have been deemed the safest place in America. Good job, CNMI, for following the protocols and keeping the islands safe!

With the recent discovery of a community case, the government is rolling back to the restrictions that were implemented earlier except they don't make sense. What I mean by that is that the government is permitting social gatherings on Managaha but not the public beaches on Saipan. Bars and restaurants can open (50% capacity) but you can't have a beer at the beach. Gatherings of more than 10 people are not permitted yet churches are permitted to open at 50% capacity allowing for more than 10 people at one gathering. The government is permitting Public School System students with special needs to learn face to face but private school students are not permitted to learn face to face even though the schools have been inspected and approved to open by the Department of Public Works and the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force.

If it is safe enough to gather in churches (at 50% capacity), then it is safe enough for kids to go to schools (at 50% capacity). If it is safe enough to gather in bars and restaurants (at 50% capacity), then it is safe enough for kids to go to schools. If it is safe enough for kids with special needs to go to public schools, then it is safe enough for private school kids to go to schools. If parents have the right to make the decision to bring their kids to church, or a restaurant or send their kid with special needs to the public school campus, then parents should have the same right to send their kids to private school.

By closing the private schools, the government is simply denying parents the right to choose what kind of education (approved by the CNMI Board of Education) their child receives and denying certain kids a basic education. What if I was Amish and my belief was to not use modern technology or not to remove face to face conversations whenever possible? Would my child be permitted to go to school? Or would my rights be restricted because of my beliefs? The simple fact that the government is permitting certain students to go to school and not others goes against the fundamental right to choose in a free society.

The directive came out on Friday to be implemented today. It seems a little suspicious that if the restrictions (curfew after 9pm) are being implemented for health and safety reasons, then why wait until today? I may be be wrong but I think the GOP convention is this weekend. Coincidence? Maybe the directive is being implemented again in order to keep the pigs at the federal trough? If you don't have any COVID-19 cases, it is probably much harder to get federal dollars to keep this banana republic government funded! All this at the cost of the kids' education!

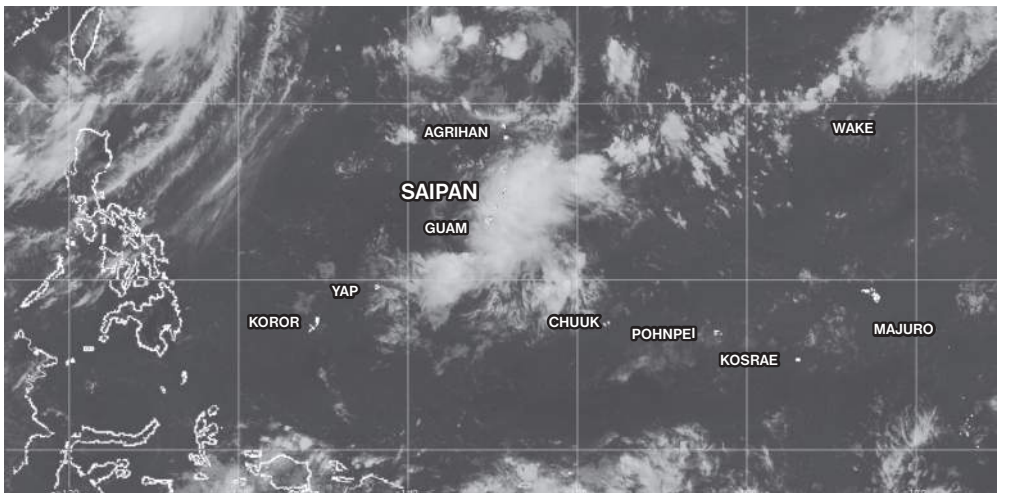
Glenn Smith
Capital Hill, Saipan

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly sunny with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. North to northwest winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy. Isolated showers in the morning, then scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon over Guam.	Partly sunny. Isolated showers and thunderstorms in the morning, then scattered showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon over Guam.	Partly sunny. Isolated showers and thunderstorms in the morning, then scattered showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon over Guam.
88° 79°	87° 79°	88° 79°	88° 79°	88° 79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:01 AM, SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Partly cloudy skies, gentle northwest winds and only a few showers are seen across the Marianas this morning. A disturbance is centered east of the Marianas near 14N153E. Combined seas at all the buoys are pegged at 2 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklist-household-ready.html
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
- ❏ Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
- ❏ Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- ❏ Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- ❏ Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	88° / 80°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	86° / 77°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	85° / 77°
Kosrae	Showers	85° / 79°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:03 AM	6:34 PM
Tuesday	6:03 AM	6:34 PM
Wednesday	6:03 AM	6:35 PM
Thursday	6:03 AM	6:34 PM
Friday	6:03 AM	6:34 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	10:48 AM	10:46 PM	-
Tuesday	11:47 AM	11:34 PM	-
Wednesday	9:50 AM	10:00 PM	-
Thursday	10:48 AM	10:46 PM	-
Friday	11:47 AM	11:34 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy 61° / 46°
Beijing	Thunderstorms 86° / 74°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms 86° / 80°
Honolulu	Sunny 85° / 75°
London	Partly Cloudy 61° / 54°
Los Angeles	Sunny 85° / 67°
Manila	Mostly Sunny 90° / 79°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy 62° / 50°
Miami	Thunderstorms 87° / 81°
New York	Partly Cloudy 87° / 75°
Osaka	Thunderstorms 93° / 81°
Paris	Showers 97° / 71°
Busan	Thunderstorms 82° / 78°
Rome	Sunny 95° / 70°
Salem	Thunderstorms 91° / 73°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy 67° / 56°
Seoul	Thunderstorms 84° / 77°
Tokyo	Thunderstorms 94° / 79°
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms 90° / 74°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY	FEET	
12:46 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.79
8:04 AM	LOW TIDE	0.59
2:46 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.51
7:47 PM	LOW TIDE	1.18

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	7:30am	8:10am	1, 4, 6

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	5:50am	6:31am	1, 4, 6

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301.2	8:30AM	9:00AM	Tues/Fri
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Tues/Fri

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101.2	9:30AM	10:00AM	Tues/Fri
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Tues/Fri

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1212	18:00	18:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

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Business

Saved by suburbs: Food trucks hit by virus find new foodies

AP
Bobby Price, left, and Catherine Vogt, right, stand with Catherine's daughter Avery, 8, and their dogs as they wait to order from the YS Street Food food truck, Monday, Aug. 10, 2020, near the suburb of Lynnwood, Wash., north of Seattle.

LYNNWOOD, Wash. (AP)—On a warm summer night, two food trucks pulled onto a tree-lined street in a hilltop neighborhood outside Seattle. The smell of grilled meat filled the air, and neighbors slurped on boba tea drinks. Toddlers, teens, their parents and dogs sat in the grass, chatting behind masks, laughing and mimicking imaginary hugs to stay socially distant while they waited for their food orders.

Long seen as an urban treasure, food trucks are now being saved by the suburbs during the coronavirus pandemic. No longer able to depend on bustling city centers, these small businesses on wheels are venturing out to where people are working and spending most of their time—home.

As food trucks hunt for customers that used to flock to them, they're finding a captive audience thrilled to skip cooking dinner, sample new kinds of cuisines and mingle with neighbors on what feels like a night out while safely staying close to home.

"This is festival season, fun season. All the stuff we typically do as humans, we can't do anymore," said Matt Geller, president of the National Food Truck Association. "Walking out to a food truck is a taste of normalcy, and it feels really good."

YS Street Food Group owner Yuli Shen discovered the hilltop Seattle-area neighborhood through Facebook, and she and a friend who runs the Dreamy Drinks boba tea truck went out together recently and served customers for three hours.

It's a change and a relief for Shen. Before the pandemic, she raked in money by parking at Amazon's campus near downtown Seattle, where hordes of office workers would line up for lunchtime Chinese rice bowls. By July, she was frantically searching for somewhere to go.

"It's very hard to find a location to park, and so we have to find a different place and different people. It's harder to run the business, but we're trying," Shen said.

Weekday lunchtime business is the bulk of the revenue for an average food truck, which may make $800 to $1,200 a day, Geller said. And lucrative appearances at major summer festivals and community events padded them for leaner winter months.

Since stay-at-home orders earlier this year emptied out city centers and canceled gatherings, many food trucks—like brick-and-mortar restaurants—have gone out of business or aren't sure when they'll open again.

Food trucks adjusted their business model as they headed to the suburbs: They focus on dinner, adding kid-friendly options and preparing for larger orders. A new neighborhood means being unsure how many customers they'll get and gambling on how much food to bring. To avoid that, many trucks urge customers to order ahead online.

Geller said the suburban shift has been a boon for food trucks in places like Seattle, Nashville, Tennessee, and Austin, Texas. He said people in the suburbs have been good at staying connected with neighbors during COVID-19 through Facebook groups, where food truck gatherings are advertised.

B.J. Lofback decided to pivot his Nashville-area food truck and restaurant away from labor-intensive Korean food after laying off most of his staff when business dwindled. He rebranded as Pinchy's Lobster Co. and now sells lobster rolls, which he can largely prep himself.

Without his usual downtown Nashville lunchtimes and music events, he and other truckers began reaching out to homeowners associations in large subdivisions. It's been such a success, he doesn't miss the "stressful, expensive" event schedule. Now, he can keep all the money he earns, instead of paying up to 20% of his revenue in event fees.

"The economics just worked," Lofback said. "Me personally, I'm hoping that even if a vaccine dropped tomorrow and herd immunity was accomplished tomorrow, I hope neighborhoods still have us out."

Piroshky Piroshky, a Seattle institution at the iconic Pike Place Market, lost 90% of its brick-and-mortar business when the pandemic hit, operations manager Brian Amaya said.

The bakery pivoted to online sales, home deliveries and food truck events. Some events featuring its famous hand pies have been as successful as a modest day in a store. The 28-year-old business is considering adding a second food truck.

BOH temporarily closing Guam branches

GUAM—Bank of Hawaii will be temporarily closing its Hagatna and Harmon branches starting today, Aug. 24, to comply with Guam Gov. Leon Guerrero's latest executive order that requires all non-critical businesses in Guam to close for at least one week due to the pandemic.

All non-critical businesses were required to close today, Friday, Aug. 21, at noon. According to an addendum from the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services, banks are allowed to stay open through Saturday, Aug. 22, at midnight, GST. Bank of Hawaii will observe its regularly scheduled hours for Hagatna and Harmon branches tomorrow, Aug. 22 (9 to 10 a.m. (Manamko hour), 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.), and will reopen when the Governor's emergency order is lifted.

Bank of Hawaii will continue to process transactions submitted via its online and mobile channels (including direct deposits and automatic payments), as well as ATMs. The nearest available Bank of Hawaii ATMs can be found on www.boh.com/locations or on its mobile app.

The bank encourages Guam customers to sign up for and use its digital banking services. For more information about please visit: www.boh.com/covid-19-main-page/remote-banking-options.

Bank of Hawaii's Call Center operations remain open to assist customers and can be reached at 1-877-553-2424 for assistance. ***(PR)***

All BoG branches closed except Andersen

Hagatna, GUAM—In compliance with Guam Gov. Lou A. Leon Guerrero's Executive Order #2020-28 , Bank of Guam's Guam branches will be closed beginning today, Aug.24, 2020, with the exception of Andersen Air Force Base Branch which will remain open from Monday through Friday, 9am-3pm.

Our Customer Contact Center continues to operate, and can be reached at (671) 472-5300.

All other Bank of Guam branches in the CNMI, our Neighboring Islands and San Francisco remain open, with no change in their hours.

Please visit our website at www.bankofguam.com if you have any questions.

For more information, please call Jackie Marati at (671) 472-5258. ***(PR)***

US WeChat users sue Trump over order banning messaging app

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Some U.S.-based users of WeChat are suing President Donald Trump in a bid to block an executive order that they say would effectively bar access in the U.S. to the hugely popular Chinese messaging app.

The complaint, filed Friday in San Francisco, is being brought by the nonprofit U.S. WeChat Users Alliance and several people who say they rely on the app for work, worship and staying in touch with relatives in China. The plaintiffs said they are not affiliated with WeChat, nor its parent company, Tencent Holdings.

In the lawsuit, they asked a federal court judge to stop Trump's executive order from being enforced, claiming it would violate its U.S. users' freedom of speech, free exercise of religion and other constitutional rights.

"We think there's a First Amendment interest in providing continued access to that app and its functionality to the Chinese-American community," Michael Bien, one of the plaintiffs' attorneys, said Saturday.

Trump on Aug. 6 ordered sweeping but vague bans on transactions with the Chinese owners of WeChat and another popular consumer app, TikTok, saying they are a threat to U.S. national security, foreign policy and the economy.

The twin executive orders—one for each app—are expected to take effect Sept. 20, or 45 days from when they were issued. The orders call on Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, who is also named as a defendant in the U.S. WeChat Users Alliance lawsuit, to define the banned dealings by that time.

It remains unclear what the orders will mean for the apps' millions of users in the U.S., but experts have said the orders appear intended to bar WeChat and TikTok from the app stores run by Apple and Google. That would make them more difficult to use in the U.S.

"The first thing we're going to seek is a postponement of the implementation of the penalties and sanctions —- a reasonable period of time between explaining what the rules are and punishing people for not complying with them," Bien said.

TikTok, which is owned by Chinese company ByteDance, said Saturday saying it plans to mount a legal challenge against the executive order that President Trump issued against the popular video app.

WeChat, which has more than 1 billion users, is less well-known than TikTok to Americans without a connection to China.

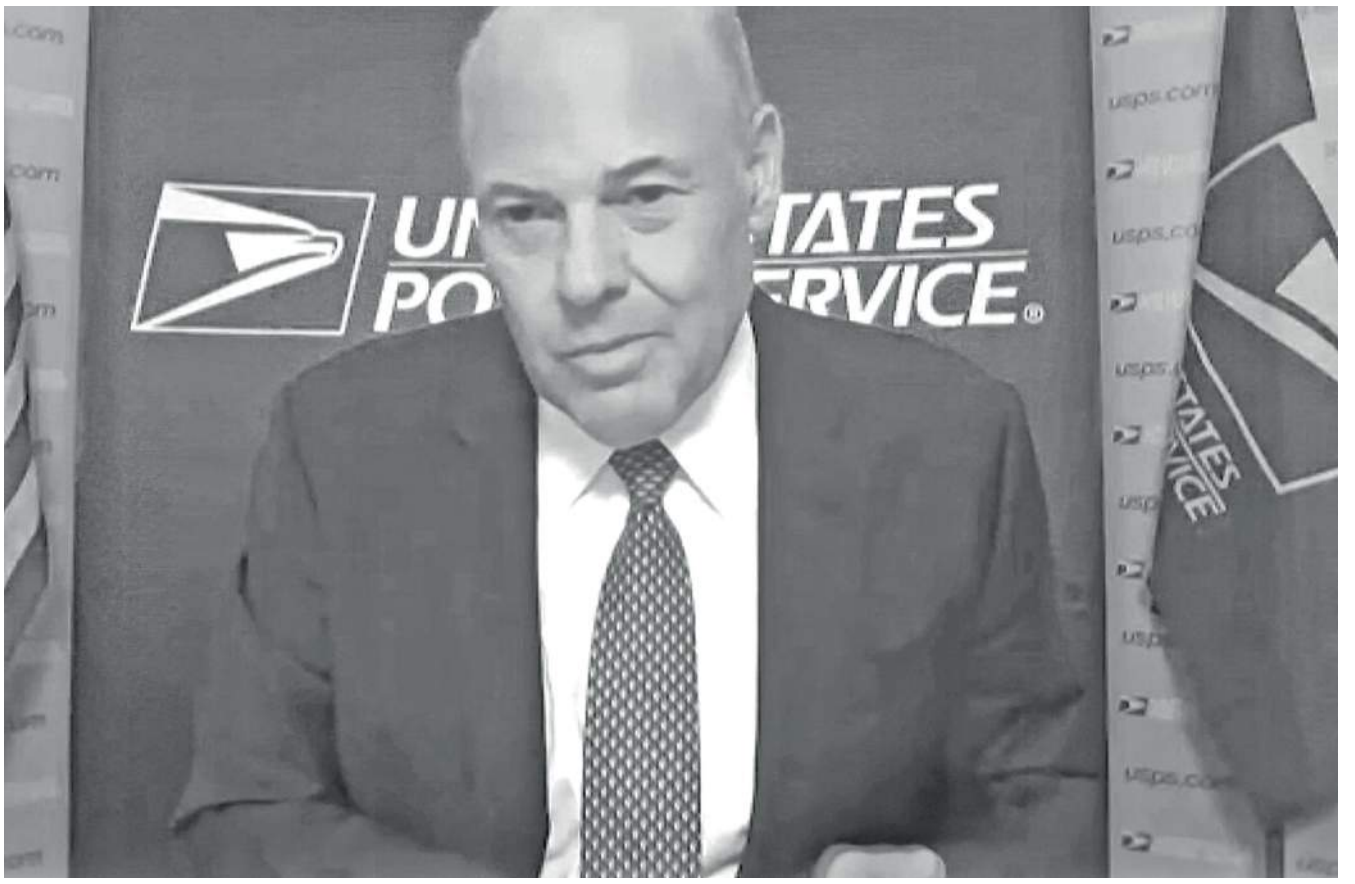
Mobile research firm Sensor Tower estimates about 19 million U.S. downloads of the app. But it is crucial infrastructure for Chinese students and residents in the U.S. to connect with friends and family in China and for anyone who does business with China.

Within China, WeChat is censored and expected to adhere to content restrictions set by authorities. The Citizen Lab internet watchdog group in Toronto have said WeChat monitors files and images shared abroad to aid its censorship in China.

Even so, the U.S. WeChat Users Alliance complaint argued that losing access to the app would harm millions of people in the U.S. who rely on it, noting it is the only app with an interface designed for Chinese speakers.

Nation

House passes bill to reverse changes blamed for mail delays



AP
In this image from video, U.S. Postmaster General Louis DeJoy testifies during a video virtual hearing before the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee on the U.S. Postal Service during COVID-19 and the upcoming elections, Friday, Aug. 21, 2020 on Capitol Hill in Washington.

WASHINGTON (AP)— With heated debate over mail delays, the House approved legislation in a rare Saturday session that would reverse recent changes in U.S. Postal Service operations and send $25 billion to shore up the agency ahead of the November election.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi recalled lawmakers to Washington over objections from Republicans dismissing the action as a stunt. President Donald Trump urged a no vote, including in a Saturday tweet, railing against mail-in ballots expected to surge in the COVID-19 crisis. He has said he wants to block extra funds to the Postal Service.

"Don't pay any attention to what the president is saying, because it is all designed to suppress the vote," Pelosi said at the Capitol.

Pelosi called the Postal Service the nation's "beautiful thread" connecting Americans and said voters should "ignore" the president's threats.

The daylong session came as an uproar over mail disruptions puts the Postal Service at the center of the nation's tumultuous election year, with Americans rallying around one of the nation's oldest and more popular institutions. Millions of people are expected to opt for mail-in ballots to avoid polling places during the coronavirus pandemic.

Ahead of voting the president tweeted, "This is all another HOAX."

More than two dozen Republicans broke with the president and backed the bill, which passed 257-150. Democrats led approval, but the legislation is certain to stall in the GOP-held Senate. The White House said the president would veto it.

Facing a backlash over operational changes, new Postmaster General Louis DeJoy testified Friday in the Senate that his "No. 1 priority" is to ensure election mail arrives on time.

But the new postal leader, a Trump ally, said he would not restore the cuts to mailboxes and sorting equipment that have already been made. He could not provide senators with a plan for handling the ballot crush for the election. DeJoy is set to return Monday to testify before the House Oversight Committee.

"The American people don't want anyone messing with the post office," said Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-N.Y., the chair of the Oversight Committee and author of the bill. "They just want their mail."

But Republicans countered that complaints about mail delivery disruptions are overblown, and no emergency funding is needed right now.

"It's a silly, silly bill," said Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla.

Despite the postmaster general's vow election mail will arrive on time, Democrats remain skeptical. Maloney's committee on Saturday released internal Postal Service documents warning about steep declines and delays in a range of mail services since early July, shortly after DeJoy took the helm. He acknowledged at the Senate hearing there has been a "dip" in service, but disputed reports of widespread problems. The Board of Governors of the Postal Service announced a bipartisan committee to oversee mail voting.

The bill would reverse the cuts by prohibiting any changes made after January, and provide funds to the agency.

In a memo to House Republicans, leaders derided the legislation as a postal "conspiracy theory" act. Many GOP lawmakers echoed such sentiments during a lively floor debate.

"I like the post office, I really do," said Rep. Glenn Grothman, R-Wis. But he said, "We have no crisis here."

In just a week, wildfires burn 1 million acres in California

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)— Weary firefighters in California raced Saturday to slow the spread of wildfires that burned nearly one million acres statewide in a week and destroyed hundreds of homes ahead an expected weather change that could bring more lightning strikes like the ones that sparked many of the blazes.

Responding to the emergency, President Donald Trump issued a major disaster declaration to provide federal assistance. Gov. Gavin Newsom said in a statement that the declaration will also help people in counties affected by the fires with crisis counseling, housing and other social services.

Two clusters of wildfires in the San Francisco Bay Area grew to become the second- and third-largest wildfires in recent state history by size. Light winds and cooler and more humid nighttime weather helped fire crews make progress on those fires and a third group of fires south of San Francisco ahead of the forecast of warm, dry weather, erratic wind gusts and lightning, state fire officials said.

The National Weather Service issued a red flag warning of high fire danger across the Bay Area and along the Central Coast, beginning from Sunday morning to Monday afternoon.

"The worst is not behind us. We are in a battle rhythm," California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) Chief Thom Porter tweeted.

Since thousands of lightning strikes began on Aug. 15, the state reported 585 wildfires that have burned nearly a million acres, or 1,562 square miles (4,046 square kilometers), according to Cal Fire.

Many were small and remote. The bulk of damage was from three fire "complexes" that were ravaging forest and rural areas in and around the San Francisco Bay Area. They have burned 1,045 square miles (2,700 square kilometers). The fires have killed five people, torched nearly 700 homes and other structures and forced tens of thousands from their houses.

"Tuesday night when I went to bed I had a beautiful home on a beautiful ranch," said 81-year-old Hank Hanson of Vacaville. "By Wednesday night, I have nothing but a bunch of ashes."

In Santa Cruz County, the fire was threatening Boulder Creek, an old logging community of about 5,000 in the Santa Cruz Mountains on the edge of California's oldest state park -- Big Basin Redwoods. Fire officials said they expected the blaze to reach the community, but they took advantage of recent good weather to try to "herd" flames around the town.

Earlier in the week, fire officials in charge of each of the three major wildfires said they were strapped for resources. Some firefighters were working 72-hour shifts instead of the usual 24 hours. By Friday, the approximately 13,700 firefighters on the line began to get help on the ground and with aircraft from 10 states, along with the National Guard and U.S. military.

Those fires were a top priority. But in a sign of how overburdened the state's firefighting agency is, fire officials said only 1,400 firefighters were assigned to battle the LNU Lightning Complex fire in wine country north of San Francisco, which was only 15% contained.

In comparison, about 5,000 firefighters were assigned to the Mendocino Complex fire in 2018, the largest fire in recent state history.

"All of our resources remain stretched to capacity that we have not seen in recent history," said Shana Jones, the chief for Cal Fire's Sonoma-Lake-Napa unit.

In recordings, Trump's sister says he 'has no principles'

WASHINGTON (AP)— President Donald Trump's older sister, a former federal judge, is heard sharply criticizing her brother in a series of recordings released Saturday, at one point saying of the president, "He has no principles."

Maryanne Trump Barry was secretly recorded by her niece, Mary Trump, who recently released a book denouncing the president, "Too Much and Never Enough: How My Family Created the World's Most Dangerous Man." Mary Trump said Saturday she made the recordings in 2018 and 2019.

In one recording, Barry, 83, says she had heard a 2018 interview with her brother on Fox News in which he suggested that he would put her on the border to oversee cases of immigrant children separated from their parents.

"His base, I mean my God, if you were a religious person, you want to help people. Not do this," Barry says.

At another point she says: "His goddamned tweet and lying, oh my God." She adds: "I'm talking too freely, but you know. The change of stories. The lack of preparation. The lying. Holy shit."

Barry can also be heard saying that she guesses that her brother has never read her opinions on immigration cases.

"What has he read?" Mary Trump asks her aunt.

Barry responds: "No. He doesn't read."

The recordings were first reported by The Washington Post. The Associated Press then obtained the recordings.

The recordings came to light just a day after the late Robert Trump, brother to Maryanne and the president, was memorialized in a service at the White House. Later, the president was dismissive of the recordings.

"Every day it's something else, who cares. I miss my brother, and I'll continue to work hard for the American people," Trump said in a statement. "Not everyone agrees, but the results are obvious. Our country will soon be stronger than ever before."

In the weeks since the release of Mary Trump's tell-all book about her uncle, she has been questioned about the source of some of its information. Nowhere in the book does she say that she recorded conversations with her aunt. On Saturday, Mary Trump revealed that she had covertly taped 15 hours of face-to-face conversations with Barry.

"Mary realized members of her family had lied in prior depositions," said Chris Bastardi, a spokesman for Mary Trump. He added: "Anticipating litigation, she felt it prudent to tape conversations in order to protect herself."

World

S. Korea counts 397 new cases as virus rebounds

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea has added 397 new cases to its coronavirus caseload in a 10th day of triple-digit increases, as the speed of viral spread nears the levels last seen during the worst of the outbreak in spring.

The resurgence, which began in the densely populated capital area before spreading to practically every major city and provincial town over the past week, is a major setback for the country that had been eager to tout its hard-won gains against the virus.

After avoiding stringent social distancing measures because of concerns over hurting the economy, officials have now banned large gatherings, closed nightspots, beaches and churches and removed fans from professional sports.

Sunday's jump in infections marked the third consecutive day they've crossed 300. Most of the new cases come from the Seoul area, home to half of the country's 51 million population where health workers have struggled to trace contacts tied to places likes churches, schools, restaurants and work.

Cases were also reported in other major cities such as Busan, Gwangju, Daejeon and Daegu, the epicenter of the previous major outbreak in late February and March.

The country managed to stabilize the situation in the Daegu area by April through aggressive testing and contact tracing. That approach worked because much of the infections had been tied to a single church congregation with thousands of members.

But it's unclear the formula would be as effective now, with the virus spreading nationwide and new clusters popping up from unpredictable places and groups as people increasingly venture out in public.

Belarus blocks over 50 news websites but protests continue

MINSK, Belarus (AP)—Authorities in Belarus blocked more than 50 news media websites that were covering weeks of protests demanding that authoritarian President Alexander Lukashenko resign but protesters still turned out again Saturday, some forming a chain of solidarity in the capital.

The Belarusian Association of Journalists reported the shutdowns Saturday, which included sites for the U.S.-funded Radio Liberty and Belsat, a Polish-funded satellite TV channel focusing on neighboring Belarus. The state publishing house has also stopped printing two top independent newspapers, the Narodnaya Volya and Komsomolskaya Pravda, citing an equipment malfunction.

Protests unprecedented in Belarus for their size and duration broke out after the Aug. 9 presidential election, in which election officials say Lukashenko won a sixth term in a landslide. Protesters allege the officials results are fraudulent and are calling for Lukashenko to resign after 26 years in power.

Police responded harshly to the protests at first, arresting 7,000 people and beating many of them. But the police crackdown only widened the scope of the protests, and now anti-government strikes have been called at some of the country's main factories, former bases of support for Lukashenko. Some police have posted videos of themselves burning their uniforms and quitting in disgust at the government's response.

In an enormous show of defiance, an estimated 200,000 protesters rallied Aug. 16 in the capital, Minsk. Lukashenko's main election challenger, Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, has called for another massive show of opposition this Sunday.

"We are closer than ever to our dream," she said in a video message from Lithuania, where she took refuge after the election, knowing that some previous presidential challengers in Belarus had been jailed for years.

Public shows of support for Lukashenko, who has ruled Belarus with an iron fist since 1994, have been comparatively modest. A pro-government rally in Minsk on Aug. 16 attracted about a quarter as many people as the protest march. On Saturday, only about 25 people showed up for a bicycle ride to support the president.

On Saturday, hundreds of women dressed in white formed a human chain in Minsk as sign of protest. Another demonstration in the evening was attended by 3,000 people.

"Threats, intimidation, blocking no longer work. Hundreds of thousands of Belarusians are telling him 'go away" from all corners and squares," said Anna Skuratovich, one of the women in the chain.

Protesters say they are fed up with the country's declining living standards and have been angered at Lukashenko's dismissal of the coronavirus pandemic, as well as his decades of repressing dissent.

"Lukashenko can't propose anything other than tears for the USSR, bans and truncheons," said Tatian Orlovich, in the crowd at the evening protest.

Lukashenko alleges that the protests are inspired by Western forces including the United States and that NATO is deploying forces near Belarus' western border. The alliance firmly denies that claim.

The 65-year-old leader renewed the allegation Saturday during a visit to a military exercise in the Grodno region, near the borders of Poland and Lithuania.

"You see that they are already dragging an 'alternative president' here," he said, referring to Tsikhanouskaya. "Military support is evident—the movement of NATO troops to the borders."

Lukashenko later spoke to a rally of several thousand supporters in Grodno, where he threatened to close factories that are on still strike as of Monday. Strikes have hit some of the country's major companies, including vehicle and fertilizer manufacturers, a potential blow to the largely state-controlled economy that has been struggling for years.

Authorities on Friday threatened demonstrators with criminal charges in a bid to stop the protests.

FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY

†JUAN IGLECIAS DELEON GUERRERO

We, the family of the late †Juan Iglecias Deleon Guerrero, respectfully invite our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the First Death Anniversary of our beloved husband, father, grandfather, and brother unto eternal life.

Daily masses of intention will be offered at San Jose Church, beginning Tuesday, August 25, 2020 until Wednesday, September 2, 2020, at 6 p.m. except Sunday, August 30, mass will be at 7:00 a.m.

Your thoughts, prayers and presence are sincerely appreciated.

Thank You and Si Yuus Maase.

Viola S. Deleon Guerrero, children and family

In Memory

It broke our hearts to lose you, But you did not go alone.
A part of us went with you, the day God took you Home.
If tears could build a stairway, and heartaches make a lane,
we'd walk our way to heaven, and bring you back again.
In life we loved you dearly, In death we love you still,
In our hearts we hold a place, No one could ever fill.

Forever in Our Hearts

Health & Wellness

This advertorial is sponsored by Tan Holdings HEALTH IS WEALTH Tan Siu Lin Foundation

5 WAYS you can feel **more in control** of your life during the **COVID-19 pandemic**

RASHA ALI
(TNS)

This is a scary time.

For most of us, the pandemic has upended our entire lives: Important projects have halted, we've lost jobs, canceled momentous trips, gone weeks (and counting) without hugging our family and friends. Nothing seems "normal."

It's natural to feel like your life is spiraling out of control, and it's OK to feel anxious about the future (just don't spend too much time in that space).

If you've lost track of what day of the week it is or can't remember the last time you changed out of your sweats, fret not. There are things you can do to help you feel like you have some kind of control over your life.

Here are ways you can cope:

The first step is accepting we're not in control

Unless there's something someone's not telling us, we have no control over when we'll be able to move freely again without worrying about COVID-19.

"Accept that we have no control, or very limited control," says Janine Urbaniak Reid, author of "The Opposite of Certainty: Fear, Faith and Life in Between." "It takes usually a lot of resistance, but a lot of my suffering comes from trying to control what's not mine to control – my resistance to what is."

Reid, who has spent years in and out of hospitals with her son for multiple brain surgeries, advises focusing on things you can control within your own little world. Maybe you can't go out to your favorite restaurant or see your friends, but what can you do?

When things start to feel overwhelming, remind yourself that you can keep going.

"I called one of my closest friends, and I just melted on the phone. ... I can't do another night of not sleeping, I can't do another day of not knowing," Reid remembers confiding during another long hospital stay with her son.

Her friend's response: "But you're doing it."

Try to pretend like everything is fine

Remember pre-coronavirus when you had somewhat of a routine to your day? You'd wake up at a certain time to go to your job, have your meals around the same time, exercise or go to happy hour after work.

Whatever your daily schedule looked like before, try to stick to it, says Nedra Glover Tawwab, licensed therapist and founder of Kaleidoscope Counseling, who helps people create healthy relationships, It will be easier on you when you do go back to your regular routine.

"Sticking to the pattern of what was as much as possible could be helpful," Tawwab says. "If you're the sort of person who worked out however many times a week, it's still important for you to do that."

Having some structure to your day is helpful, whether it's planning when you're going to mop the floor or setting aside time to binge-watch "Tiger King," so you're not waking up every day without a focus and feeling lost.

"Even making a to-do list for the day. Perhaps your list is doing a load of laundry, cleaning behind your refrigerator, watching five episodes of 'SVU' – whatever those things are, it doesn't have to be anything super-productive, but it does give your day some focus and something for you to look forward to and actually achieve," Tawwab says.

Be present in the moment and stop worrying about the future

Yes, it may be tempting to let your mind wander into "What if?" worst-case scenarios, but what if you set time limits on being in that space of anxiety?

Psychotherapist Ashley Peterson, owner of Ashley Peterson Counseling, says she's noticed people saying things such as "summer is canceled."

"It is very much April," Peterson says. "Allow yourself to be aware and speak to and acknowledge that you do have these fears of the future. However, pull yourself back into the facts of what is right now? Today is today, and this is what we can focus on because this is what we know."

Reid says whenever she felt overwhelmed, especially in the hospital with her son, she would be where her feet are.

"What that means is I would literally stop ... be right here, right now," Reid says. "I'm sitting at my desk, I know the sun is shining, I've got a cup of tea, I'm talking to some nice people. I'm OK, my fears aren't happening right now."

Maintain relationships with friends and family

Being in quarantine make it especially easy to feel like we're alone (especially if you're living alone and away from family), so make sure you spend quality virtual time with the people you care about.

"Still maintain relationships with your friends and family," Peterson says. "Have group virtual activities with your friends that allow you to be together while still separate, like that app Houseparty, or even having listening parties to listen to new music together."

Whether it's planning a brunch date with your friends or setting aside time to chat with your parents, try to keep up the relationships you had pre-coronavirus.

There's a pandemic going on, give yourself some grace

Some people may resort to restrictive dieting or excessive working out as a way to have control over something, Peterson says.

"A lot of people are looking at this time to start giving up things that are bad for them, like carbs and sugar and all the things that taste delicious. However, a lot of times we use food as a coping skill," Peterson says. "So when we're at a space where we don't have as many additional coping skills available to us, giving up the ones you have will generally cause us more problems than solutions."

It's a pandemic, so be kind to yourself. Just because you're at home doesn't mean you necessarily have more free time and have to do every home project and fulfill every life goal.

"Set reasonable expectations, and that might be: 'Can I send an email? Can I empty the dishwasher? Can I spend a few minutes uninterrupted at the computer?' " Reid says.

Coronavirus prevention

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.

Symptoms:

For confirmed coronavirus cases, reported illnesses have ranged from mild symptoms to severe illness and death. Symptoms can include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Headache

Prevention:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

- Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a health care facility).

Source: CDC Graphic: Staff, TNS

Life & Style

Loughlin, Giannulli get prison time in college bribery plot

BOSTON (AP)—Apologizing publicly for the first time for crimes their lawyers insisted for months they didn't commit, "Full House" star Lori Loughlin and her fashion designer husband, Mossimo Giannulli, were sentenced to prison Friday for using their wealth and privilege to cheat their daughters' way into the college of their choice.

AP

In this April 3, 2019 file photo, actress Lori Loughlin, front, and husband, clothing designer Mossimo Giannulli, left, depart federal court in Boston after facing charges in a nationwide college admissions bribery scandal.

The two-month prison sentence for Loughlin and five-month term for Giannulli bring to a close the legal saga for the highest-profile parents ensnared in the college admissions bribery scheme—a scandal that rocked the U.S. educational system and laid bare the lengths some wealthy parents will go to get their kids into elite universities.

Fighting back tears, Loughlin told the judge her actions "helped exacerbate existing inequalities in society" and pledged to do everything in her power to use her experience as a "catalyst to do good." Her lawyer said she began volunteering with special needs students at an elementary school.

"I made an awful decision. I went along with a plan to give my daughters an unfair advantage in the college admissions process and in doing so I ignored my intuition and allowed myself to be swayed from my moral compass," Loughlin, 56, said during the hearing held via videoconference because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Hours before in a separate hearing, Giannulli, whose Mossimo clothing had long been a Target brand until recently, told the judge he "deeply" regrets the harm to his daughters, wife and others.

"I take full responsibility for my conduct. I am ready to accept the consequences and move forward, with the lessons I've learned from this experience," Giannulli, 57, said in a stoic statement.

In her lawyer's own words,

Carol Burnett seeks to be guardian of teen grandson

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Carol Burnett is seeking to become the legal guardian of her teenage grandson as his mother struggles with substance abuse.

Burnett

The 87-year-old television comedy legend and her husband, Brian Miller, filed documents in Los Angeles Superior Court on Wednesday to take custody of her 52-year-old daughter Erin Hamilton's son Dylan.

"Due to addiction issues and other circumstances that my daughter, Erin, has been struggling with impacting her immediate family dynamic, my husband and I have petitioned the court to be appointed legal guardian of my 14-year-old grandson," Burnett said in a statement.

"Guardianship will be for oversight purposes concerning his health, education and welfare and not intended to deny him nor the parents proper visitation with one another. We look forward to recovery being the next stepping stone towards normalization and ask for privacy at this time to allow that process to occur."

Kanye off presidential ballot

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—Wisconsin election officials decided Thursday to keep rapper Kanye West off the battleground state's presidential ballot in November because his campaign turned in his nomination papers moments after the deadline.

West

West announced in July he's running for president on a ticket he calls the "Birthday Party." West has since been gathering signatures to get on the ballot in several states. Democrats allege that Republicans are pushing West's candidacy in several swing states to siphon Black votes away from Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden. Wisconsin is expected to play a key role in deciding the election after President Donald Trump narrowly won the state in 2016.

A group of voters filed a complaint with the state Elections Commission earlier this month alleging that West campaign workers missed the 5 p.m. filing deadline on Aug. 4, the last day for independent presidential candidates to submit the required 2,000 signatures from Wisconsin voters to get on the ballot.

Fire that tore through Rachael Ray's house began in chimney

LAKE LUZERNE, N.Y. (AP)—A fire that tore through celebrity chef Rachael Ray's upstate New York home started in a fireplace chimney, state officials said Friday.

The state Office of Fire Prevention and Control said the August 9 fire at the house in Lake Luzerne, N.Y., was accidental.

The blaze sent flames through the roof of the home, at the end of a private drive in a rural area about 60 miles (97 kilometers) north of Albany, New York.

More than a dozen local fire departments worked to put out the flames. No firefighters or anyone from the household was injured.

Ray had been filming two days a week from her home since April, with her husband working as the show's cameraman and producer.

Megan Thee Stallion says person who shot her was Tory Lanez

LOS ANGELES (AP)—More than a month after she was shot in the feet after a party in the Hollywood Hills, Megan Thee Stallion said for the first time Thursday night that fellow hip-hop star Tory Lanez was the person who pulled the trigger.

"Yes ... Tory shot me. You shot me and you got your publicist and your people going to these blogs lying," the 25-year-old rapper, whose legal name is Megan Pete, said in an Instagram Live video. "Stop lying. Why lie? I don't understand."

Stallion

Representatives for Lanez, a 28-year-old rapper and singer whose legal name is Daystar Peterson, did not respond to requests for comment late Thursday night, and have not responded to several previous requests for comment from The Associated Press.

Pete said she did not tell Los Angeles police who came to the scene on July 12 about the shooting because she was afraid of the legal repercussions, and afraid for her safety.

"I didn't tell the police nothing because I didn't want us to get in no more trouble," she says in the video.

Peterson was arrested the morning of the incident on suspicion of possession of a concealed weapon and was released on bail later that day, but has not been charged with anything related to the incident. Police and prosecutors say the case remains under investigation.

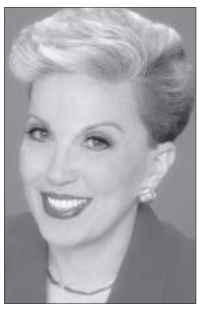
Pete, Peterson and others were sharing an SUV after the party in the early hours of July 12. She said in the video that there was an argument between the people in the vehicle, and Peterson shot her when she tried to walk away. She denied rumors that she had hit him in the SUV.

Pete first said publicly that she was shot later that week, and has slowly revealed more in several social media posts since it happened, usually in response to what she said were false stories spreading.

Family wishes to acknowledge friend's support and devotion

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: My family has suffered a great loss. My older sister died by suicide. My younger sister's best friend "Carrie" drove four hours from Michigan to be with our family. From the day after we found out and for almost a week, Carrie was by our side, comforting us, helping with arrangements and anything else that needed to be done. She even worked all night with our old family videos to digitize, edit and set them to music so it would be done in time for the wake.

Now, as we are beginning to write thank-you notes to all of those who were there for us, my family is wondering how we can express our gratitude to her for her support during this awful time. We would like to do or give her something special because we truly consider her to be a part of our family, but we don't know what.

APPRECIATIVE IN THE EAST

DEAR APPRECIATIVE: The head of the family or your younger sister should write Carrie a letter telling her how much her kindness is appreciated and telling her she is now truly a member of the family. I'm sure it would mean the world to her. In addition, consider giving her something that belonged to your older sister, such as a piece of jewelry. Your younger sister should be the person to select it. A keepsake would, I am sure, be deeply appreciated and treasured.

DEAR ABBY: At age 17, my pregnant and unwed mother married a schoolmate of my biological father. I was given the schoolmate's last name. Several years later, my mother divorced her first husband and married my biological father. They discussed changing my last name to that of my bio father, but never did. I recently had DNA testing that proved this information to be accurate.

My last name is still not the name of my biological father, and I recently learned that the man named on my birth certificate was a rapist, an alcoholic and a bully. This is very upsetting, and I would like to legally change my name to match my actual father's. The problem is I'm now 70, married with wonderful kids and grandkids who are proud of our name. I don't want the fake daddy's name on my tombstone. Any advice for this distressed guy?

DISTRESSED SENIOR MAN

DEAR DISTRESSED: Talk to your family about why you want the name change. Perhaps when they hear that the person whose name was thrust upon you was a rapist and substance abusing bully who mistreated your mother, they will be more understanding and less willing to cling to the name they are so "proud" of. If not, then suit yourself. I wish you luck.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I have been living together for 10 years, although he is still legally married. When we met, he and his wife had been separated for five years. Neither one had the money to get divorced. My question is, if anything should happen to my boyfriend, would she have claim to any of his assets? (He doesn't have much beyond his vehicle.)

JUST WONDERING IN PENNSYLVANIA

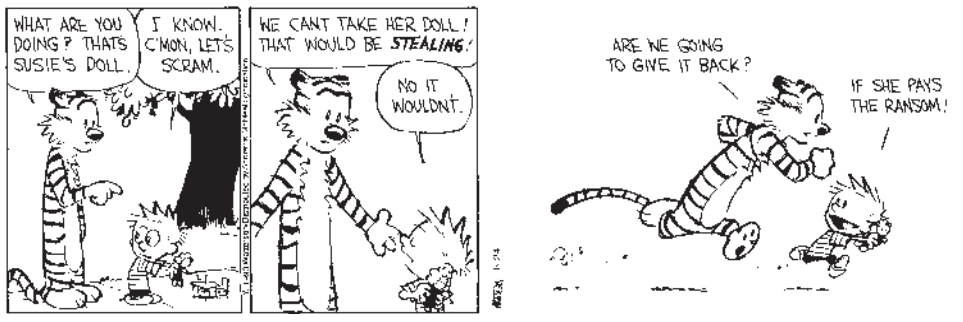
DEAR JUST WONDERING: Yes, as his surviving spouse, she will be entitled to whatever assets he leaves behind, which includes the vehicle.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

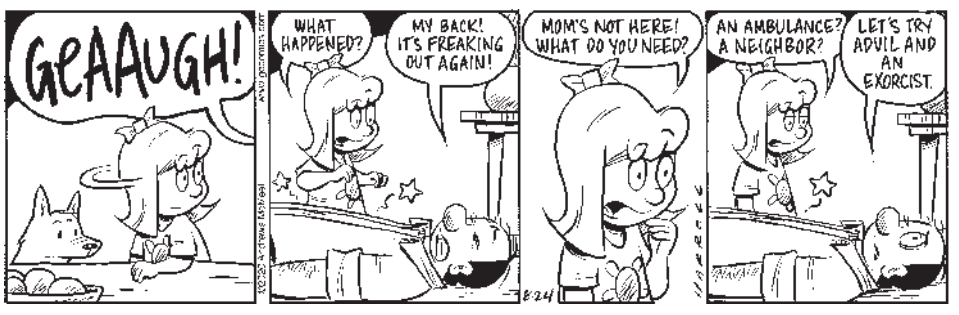

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? THAT'S SUSIE'S DOLL.
I KNOW. C'MON, LET'S SCRAM.
WE CAN'T TAKE HER DOLL! THAT WOULD BE STEALING.
NO IT WOULDN'T.
ARE WE GOING TO GIVE IT BACK?
IF SHE PAYS THE RANSOM!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

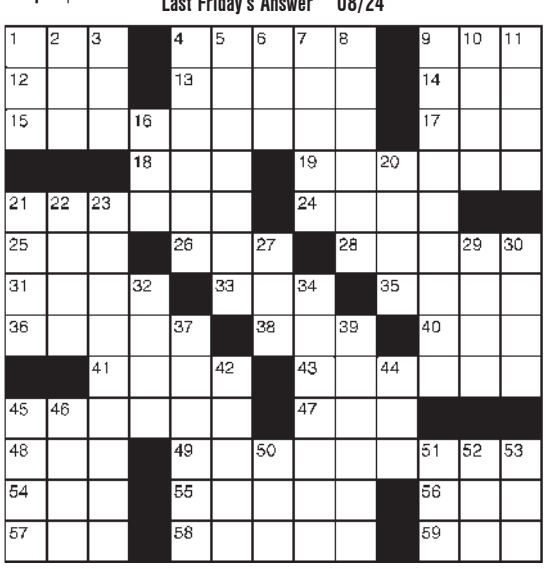
ACROSS
1 Costume hairpiece
4 "Don't Know Why" singer Jones
9 Monk's title
12 Expert
13 Puccini work
14 Cyclades island
15 Cairo waterway
17 Parcel of land
18 By means of
19 Midwest capital
21 Most adorable
24 Flair
25 "— was saying ..."
26 Small barrel
28 Preliminary version
31 Thaw
33 Fall from grace
35 Roman 2002
36 Hosp. prep area
38 Little louse
40 Yellowstone grazer
41 Evergreens
43 Dwarf tree
45 Sour cream serving
47 Jean-— Picard
48 2016 Olympics city
49 Road markers
54 Mil. morale booster
55 Emulate Frederick Douglass
56 Shoe width
57 Berlin's country (Abbr.)
58 Feel
59 Chopper

DOWN
1 Pallid
2 Here, to Henri
3 Solidify
4 Free of danger
5 Narcotics
6 Speed (up)
7 Mountain crest
8 Playwright Pinter
9 Labels on folders
10 Castle
11 Nick and Nora's pet
16 Wife of Adam
20 Eggplant — (Italian dish, for short)
21 Overly theatrical
22 Addict
23 Bathroom surface
27 Martini ingredient
29 Tennis apparel brand
30 "Kon- —"
32 Work hard
34 Corn kernels
37 "Coming Soon" ads
39 Hairpiece
42 Steeple
44 Sgt., for one
45 Pharmaceutical
46 French waterway
50 PC linkup
51 Poseidon's home
52 Singer Ritter
53 Observe

Solution time: 26 mins.

J	A	M		B	E	T		H	E	I	R	S
A	M	A		E	R	H		E	_	R	O	Y
C	O	T		V	O	I	C	E	M	A	I	L
O	R	T		Y	I	E	L	D				
B	E	E	R		C	S	I		C	A	R	B
			F	P	A		P	A	R	R	O	T
R	A	B	B	I			K	E	A	N	U	
T	W	E	E	T	S		S	A	M			
E	L	A	L		L	A	P		A	G	R	A
			S	A	B	R	A		O	I	D	
S	N	A	I	I	M	A	I	I		D	V	D
A	E	T	N	A		S	N	O		L	E	E
Y	E	A	S	T		E	T	E		Y	T	D

Last Friday's Answer 08/24



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Rupert Grint, 32; John Green, 43; Dave Chappelle, 47; Cal Ripken Jr., 60.

Happy Birthday: Put the past behind you, and prepare to initiate a change. Opportunity is within reach and will be your ticket to a better future. Channel your energy into the relationships and pastimes that will bring you the happiness and peace of mind you deserve. Make romance a priority, and share your intentions with someone you love. Your numbers are 8, 14, 22, 26, 32, 38, 43.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Avoid taking on too high a financial burden or giving the impression you are capable of doing something you cannot. Take a moment to rethink your strategy and the best way to keep the peace with someone who has a different opinion. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Don't let someone's flirting or poor judgment lead to a wrong decision. The more hands-on you are when making decisions, the easier it will be to control the outcome. Reassess a partnership that is not living up to its expectations. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Don't let your personal life interfere with your work responsibilities. Recognize when someone is taking advantage of you. Your most significant effort and contribution will lead to advancement and a better future. Focus on getting ahead, not pleasing someone who doesn't deserve you. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* A hobby or self-improvement project will push you to pursue a unique and exciting path. Reconnect with old friends, and plan a virtual reunion. Bridge the gap between your past and the present. A forgive-and-forget attitude is favored. ✪✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Finish what you start, and honor promises you make. A lifestyle change will improve a relationship you have with someone special. If you have doubts, say what's on your mind and find out where you stand. ✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* A virtual journey will lead you in a new direction. A chance to use your skills differently will encourage partnerships that can change the way you work or do things in the future. Reconnect with someone you haven't seen in a long time. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Don't overspend or let anyone take advantage of you financially. Unfinished business will leave you in an awkward position. Don't let ulterior motives lead to a problem with someone you need to work alongside. Damage control will be necessary. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Use reason when dealing with people offering ultimatums, and you will find a way to get them to see things your way. A change is likely to happen quickly. Go with the flow, and the result will be better than anticipated. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Helping someone who has assisted you in the past will make you feel good. A sales pitch may entice you, but before you decide to dole out cash, consider if your budget can handle the pressure. Stick to what you can afford. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Listen, but don't buy into someone's plan. Concentrate on personal health and emotional well-being. The ideas you come up with will far exceed what someone is prompting you to do. Don't hesitate to do your own thing. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Being observant will keep you out of trouble and allow you to make a wise decision. Distance yourself from a situation that is causing confusion or making you feel bad. Protect your heart and your possessions. ✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* You can repair a partnership that experienced troubled times if you are willing to accept half the blame. An exciting new interpretation on something you've always wanted to do will encourage you to take a chance. Love and romance are favored. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are practical, reliable and helpful. You are independent and insightful.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		9		6			4	
3		4	1			5		
	1			9	4		7	2
		7					6	
6		5		7		4		8
	8					7		
4	6		2	8			3	
		2			7	6		4
	9			3		1		

Difficulty Level ★ 8/24

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

8	2	3	1	7	9	4	6	5
1	5	7	4	6	8	9	3	2
4	9	6	5	3	2	7	1	8
5	7	4	9	8	6	1	2	3
6	8	2	3	4	1	5	7	9
3	1	9	2	5	7	8	4	6
9	6	1	8	2	4	3	5	7
2	4	5	7	9	3	6	8	1
7	3	8	6	1	5	2	9	4

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

HUGH DOWNS (1921-2020) Solution: 9 letters

B	E	W	W	J	A	Y	S	W	O	H	S	G	E	A
O	A	D	L	M	A	B	A	B	C	T	C	A	R	E
O	N	R	I	O	P	F	N	D	K	U	D	M	D	N
K	N	L	B	T	K	C	R	U	O	R	Y	E	R	O
H	O	O	E	A	H	S	L	A	A	T	(N)	C	I	I
O	U	I	R	E	R	K	R	W	N	E	(E)	I	E	T
B	N	H	T	L	A	A	O	E	R	H	(W)	P	D	A
R	C	O	A	A	A	H	W	C	T	T	(S)	S	H	R
O	E	H	R	D	P	T	B	M	S	L	H	O	O	T
A	R	G	I	S	Y	N	A	O	O	L	A	H	M	N
D	B	O	A	T	O	L	H	V	Y	E	H	W	E	E
C	K	D	N	T	C	J	E	S	M	T	E	M	I	C
A	B	E	L	O	A	R	A	D	I	O	E	A	L	N
S	W	I	L	C	A	E	S	A	R	T	N	Q	L	O
T	M	M	K	S	A	N	A	I	B	M	U	L	O	C

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Last Friday's Answer: Guarantees

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

James, Davis power Lakers past Blazers

FLORIDA (AP)—More of a spectator than a supporter for LeBron James in the first half, Anthony Davis had a message for his teammate.

"I told LeBron at half I've got to take some of the pressure off of him," Davis said.

With both superstars rolling and another dominant defensive effort, the Lakers again looked like the best of the West.

James had 38 points, 12 rebounds and eight assists, Davis scored 23 of his 29 points in the second half, and the Lakers beat the Portland Trail Blazers 116-108 on Saturday night for a 2-1 lead in the first-round series.

The Lakers shut down the high-scoring Blazers for the second straight game after the No. 1 seed was knocked off in Game 1. This was Portland's highest-scoring performance in the series and it wasn't close to good enough.

"That's just who we've always been," James said. "That has not changed since the first day we stepped on the floor at training camp."

Damian Lillard scored 34 points playing with a dislocated left index finger, and CJ McCollum added 28 for the Trail Blazers. They will try to even the series in Game 4 on Monday.

Davis scored 31 points in Game 2 but had only six at halftime Saturday. Coach Frank Vogel thought the power forward was trying to move the ball and make the right play—he finished with eight assists—but looked for his own offense in the second half.

"A.D., he just turned it on," Vogel said.

Portland was down only three with about 9 1/2 minutes left. But Davis then re-entered and started scoring from everywhere, turning lob passes into dunks or stepping outside for jumpers on his way to 12 points in the period.

Los Angeles Lakers forward Anthony Davis (3) scores over Portland Trail Blazers center Hassan Whiteside (21) during the first half of an NBA first round playoff game, Saturday, Aug. 22, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. AP

The Lakers' defense handled the rest, limiting the Blazers to just three field goals over more than seven minutes as they pushed the lead to 109-98 with a little more than 2 minutes to go.

"It wasn't our night to make those shots," Lillard said. "The effort was there. The aggressiveness was there. We just didn't make the shots that we usually make."

Carmelo Anthony added 20 points in his first good game of the series. He was 4 for 17 in the first two games and he started Game 3 with seven straight misses before making his eighth—by tipping in his own miss.

Thunder 119, Rockets 107, OT

Dennis Schroder scored 29 points, Chris Paul added 26 points and the Oklahoma City Thunder dominated in overtime to beat the Houston Rockets.

James Harden scored 38 points for Houston, but fouled out 53 seconds into overtime—the first time he's fouled out this season.

The Thunder scored the first 12 points of overtime, powered by two 3-pointers from Paul, to take a 116-104 lead.

Houston missed its first seven shots of overtime before Danuel House made a 3-pointer with less than a minute left. By then it was too late.

The Thunder had a balanced scoring attack, with Shai Gilgeous-Alexander adding 23 points and Danilo Gallinari had 20. Jeff Green had 22 points for the Rockets. They have played the entire series without Russell Westbrook, who is out with a strained right quadriceps.

Bucks 121, Magic 107

Giannis Antetokounmpo had 35 points, 11 rebounds and seven assists and Milwaukee beat Orlando for a 2-1 lead in the Eastern Conference playoff series.

Antetokounmpo was 12 of 14 from the field and the top-seeded Bucks shot 56.1% from the floor. Khris Middleton had 17 points, eight rebounds and six assists.

D.J. Augustin scored 24 points for Orlando. Nikola Vucevic and Terrence Ross added 20 points each.

Orlando forward James Ennis and Milwaukee forward Marvin Williams were both in the second quarter after exchanging shoves.

Heat 124, Pacers 115

Jimmy Butler scored 27 points and Miami held off Indians' comeback attempt to take a 3-0 lead in the Eastern Conference playoff series.

Goran Dragic added 24 points, Bam Adebayo had 22 points and 11 rebounds, and Tyler Herro scored 20 points for the Heat. They can sweep the series Monday.

Malcolm Brogdon set career playoff highs with 34 points and 14 assists for the Pacers. T.J. Warren scored 23 points, and Victor Oladipo added 20.

Doncic seeks quick recovery; 76ers, Nets facing quick exits

FLORIDA (AP)—The Dallas Mavericks will work around the clock on Luka Doncic, hoping he can be healthy enough to play Sunday.

The Philadelphia 76ers and Brooklyn Nets can tell them all about how hard the playoffs are without star guards.

Doncic hopes to make a quick recovery, and the 76ers and Nets look to avoid quick exits heading into Game 4 of their series.

Doncic sprained his left ankle in the third quarter of Dallas' 130-122 loss to the Los Angeles Clippers on Friday night. He came back in the fourth but wasn't moving well and eventually left for good.

The Mavericks were hoping to get him an MRI exam Saturday and planning to keep him off the court all day. Coach Rick Carlisle said Doncic would likely be a game-time decision.

"Obviously, we know the nature of the game. Sometimes injuries happen," Dallas guard Trey Burke said. "If he can't go, guys have got to be ready to play, step up and we've got to have the same mentality going out there and that's to win."

The Mavs beat the second-seeded Clippers in Game 2 even though Doncic was saddled with foul trouble. Losing the NBA's triple-double leader for an entire game would be much tougher.

The 76ers and Nets have had to go entire series without top ballhandlers and they're on the verge of being swept out of the bubble.

Philadelphia is down 3-0 to Boston. Playing without All-Star Ben Simmons, the Sixers have hung in defensively but struggled to score down the stretch in close losses.

"It's hard when you come up short," All-Star center Joel Embiid said. "No one wants to be in this position. I'm sure my teammates, we all hate being in this position but like I said we can't give up."

No team has come back from a 3-0 deficit. The Nets sure don't look capable after getting routed by Toronto in their Game 3 loss.

Brooklyn already came to the bubble without Kyrie Irving and Spencer Dinwiddie, their top point guards. They lost another key player after Game 2 when starting swingman Joe Harris left for family reasons.

"I hope our group embraces the now the moment that they're in," Nets coach Jacque Vaughn said. "We don't know what this thing is going to look like a month, a year, two years from now, so you have moments in your life that you can hold onto. We can embrace this time and you never know what happens if you win one game."

Nurse voted Coach of the Year

Nick Nurse was close to quitting.

He was 26 or 27 years old, coaching in Britain and wondering whether he had a future in the profession. He went to his hotel room one night and wrote down a list of four other careers he could pursue if he went back home.

None looked appealing.

"So I figured I'd better get working on coaching and figure it out," Nurse said.

He's sure done that.

Nurse never stopped believing he could get to the top, and he never considered he couldn't stay there even after his best player left last summer.

The Toronto Raptors coach's rise from the outskirts of basketball to the best of the NBA was recognized Saturday when he was overwhelmingly selected as Coach of the Year.

Nurse was a runaway winner. He received 90 first-place votes from a panel of 100 sportswriters and broadcasters and finished with 470 points. Milwaukee's Mike Budenholzer was second after leading the Bucks to the best record in the suspended season, earning 147 points. Oklahoma City's Billy Donovan (134) was third.

Angels snap Athletics' 9-game home streak

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Mike Trout drove in three early runs, then made a key catch late as the Los Angeles Angels beat Oakland 4-3 Saturday to snap the Athletics' nine-game home winning streak.

The three-time MVP made a diving catch on Matt Olson's sinking liner to center field to start the eighth inning, which had Angels reliever Ty Buttrey clapping his glove in gratitude. Buttrey got six outs for his second save.

Anthony Rendon extended his hitting streak to 12 games for the Angels, who snapped a four-game losing streak. Matt Andriese (1-1) relieved Griffin Canning in the fifth and pitched 2 1/3 innings for his first win with Los Angeles.

Matt Chapman homered for AL West-leading Oakland. Chris Bassitt (2-1) permitted four runs, two earned, and six hits in 5 2/3 innings.

AP

Los Angeles Angels' David Fletcher (22) scores past Oakland Athletics catcher Austin Allen in the first inning of a baseball game Saturday, Aug. 22, 2020, in Oakland, Calif. Fletcher scored on a single by Angels' Mike Trout.

Rays 2, Blue Jays 1, 10 innings

Pinch hitter Kevin Kiermaier singled in the 10th inning, and Tampa Bay ended Toronto's six-game winning streak.

Both teams scored a run in the fifth and it stayed 1-all until each team began the 10th with an automatic runner on second base.

After Anthony Banda (1-0) got Travis Shaw to ground into an inning-ending double play in the top half, the Rays won it.

Twins 7, Royals 2

Eddie Rosario and Miguel Sano homered, leading Minnesota to the road win.

Randy Dobnak (5-1) pitched five innings of two-run ball, continuing his brilliant start to the season. The former undrafted free agent gave up a homer to Alex Gordon but otherwise kept dodging trouble on a hot, humid night at Kauffman Stadium.

Pirates 12, Brewers 5

Adam Frazier and Jacob Stallings homered and drove in three runs apiece, powering the Pirates to the victory.

Pittsburgh collected 14 hits for the second straight day, good enough for its first win streak since last September. Gregory Polanco had a home run and a double for his first two-hit game in 15 months. Derek Holland (1-1) surrendered one run in five innings in his 300th major league appearance.

Nationals 5, Marlins 4, Game 1
Marlins 5, Nationals 3, Game 2

Sixto Sanchez allowed six hits over five innings to win his major league debut, and Miami earned a split of a doubleheader with a 5-3 win in the second game.

The Nationals won the opener as their bullpen retired all seven batters it faced to halt a Marlins' rally.

Sanchez (1-0), who was acquired as part of the trade that sent catcher J.T. Realmuto to Philadelphia last season, touched 100 mph with his fastball in the first inning and was comfortable for much of his outing. He struck out four without walking a batter, and the only damage Washington did was on Yan Gomes' solo homer in the third and Victor Robles' two-run shot in the fifth.

Indians 6, Tigers 1

Triston McKenzie struck out 10 in his major league debut and Domingo Santana delivered a bases-clearing double in the sixth to lift Cleveland.

McKenzie (1-0) went six innings, allowing two hits on a Willi Castro homer and a Jeimer Candelario double. The 23-year-old right-hander notched his first strikeout on three pitches to Miguel Cabrera in the first.

Cardinals 3, Reds 0

Kwang Hyun Kim pitched six sharp innings and earned his first major league win to lead St. Louis.

Kim gave up three hits, walked none and struck out three. This was his third game for St. Louis and second start.

Cardinals relievers John Gant, Andrew Miller and Giovanny Gallegos combined for three innings. Gallegos earned his first save by retiring all four batters he faced.

Braves 6, Phillies 5

In Atlanta, Adam Duvall and Atlanta spoiled Brandon Workman's debut with Philadelphia.

Workman, who was acquired in a trade with Boston on Friday, entered with the bases loaded and one out in the eighth inning. He promptly surrendered a two-run double to Matt Adams, lifting the Braves to a 5-4 lead.

After Bryce Harper hit a tying sacrifice fly in the ninth, the Braves handed Workman (0-1) a loss in the bottom half. With two out and the bases loaded, Duvall ended the game with a single back up the middle.

Orioles 5, Red Sox 4, 10 innings

Pedro Severino singled in the winning run in the 10th inning to punctuate a poor performance by Boston's revamped bullpen, and Baltimore snapped a six-game losing streak.

Red Sox starter Martin Perez gave up five hits over seven innings and left with a 3-1 lead. That left it up to Boston's new-look bullpen to seal the victory. One night earlier, the rebuilding Red Sox traded veteran relievers Heath Hembree and Brandon Workman to Philadelphia for a pair of young starters.

White Sox 7, Cubs 4

Jose Abreu hit three home runs a day after homering twice, and the White Sox again powered past the Cubs for their seventh straight win.

Abreu connected in the sixth, eighth and ninth innings at Wrigley Field for the first three-homer game of the All-Star slugger's career. He went 4 for 4 with a walk and four RBI. He has 10 homers and 27 RBI this season.

Mariners 10, Rangers 1

Rookie Evan White doubled and homered in his first two at-bats and finished with a career-high six RBI, Kyle Lewis added three more hits to his AL-leading total and Seattle beat Texas.

White had a two-run double to cap Seattle's three-run first inning, and added the final big blow of the night to Texas starter Jordan Lyles with a three-run shot in the third for his fifth homer of the season.

Dodgers 4, Rockies 1

In Los Angeles, Cody Bellinger's home run leading off the ninth inning gave Los Angeles a win over slumping Colorado.

Bellinger drove a slider from Daniel Bard (1-2) just over the glove of Rockies right fielder Sam Hilliard for his seventh home run of the season and the second walk-off shot of his career. Chris Taylor also homered for the Dodgers, who have won 12 of 14 games this season when hitting at least two home runs.

Padres 13, Astros 2

In San Diego, Trent Grisham hit three home runs and rookie Jake Cronenworth launched a grand slam in a wild nine-run second inning, making San Diego the first team in major league history to hit five slams in six games.

Grisham had his first three-homer game and drove in a career-high six runs. Zach Davies (4-2), who came over from Milwaukee with Grisham in an offseason deal, pitched eight brilliant innings to give the beat-up bullpen a much-needed rest and help the Padres win their sixth consecutive game.

Giants 5, Diamondbacks 1

Tyler Anderson pitched a three-hitter for his first career complete game, overshadowing a record-tying night for Zac Gallen as streaking San Francisco beat Arizona.

Mike Yastrzemski and Alex Dickerson drew consecutive walks with the bases loaded against reliever Junior Guerra in the seventh inning to break open a tight game. Brandon Belt singled twice and had an RBI.

Yastrzemski also made a spectacular defensive play when he crashed into the right-field wall to take away a hit from Ketel Marte in the sixth, helping the Giants win their fifth straight.

Anderson (1-1) was sharp all night, allowing an unearned run while striking out four with one hit batter. The lefty retired 15 straight after giving up a one-out double to Marte in the first inning.

Gronkowski looks like old self with Brady-led Bucs

TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—A refreshed Rob Gronkowski is back on the practice field with Tom Brady, sweating in the hot Florida sun, preparing for the duo's first season with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

The four-time All-Pro who was one of the most dominant tight ends in NFL history with the New England Patriots is loving every minute of it after spending a little more than a year in retirement.

"Definitely no regrets," the 31-year-old said. "I'm here. I'm supposed to be here. I feel like I'm supposed to be here."

Gronkowski hasn't played in an NFL game since helping Brady and the Patriots win the Super Bowl in February 2019.

When Brady decided to leave New England as a free agent in March, ending a historic 20-year run that included nine Super Bowl appearances and six titles, the quarterback helped lure his favorite target back to the game.

The Buccaneers acquired Gronkowski, who had one year remaining on his contract with the Patriots, in a pre-draft trade in April. He said the 13 months he spent out of football gave his oft-injured body a chance to heal.

"Let me tell you, the first couple practices, it definitely felt weird. The game was really fast when I first got out there again. The defense felt really fast," said Gronkowski, who had 521 receptions for 7,861 yards and 79 touchdowns over nine seasons with the Patriots, along with another 81 catches for 1,163 yards and 12 TDs in 16 career playoff games.

"As time goes on and as the days go on, I feel better about myself being out there. My confidence keeps going up, the game is slowing down," Gronkowski said. "I'm starting to pick up the offense more. ... I have so much more to work on, and so much more to improve on, but I am really glad to be here."

Bucs coach Bruce Arians joked earlier in training camp that the 6-foot-6, 268-pound tight end appeared to be in "New England shape ... not Florida shape."

It takes time for players new to practicing in Tampa to get acclimated to the relentless heat.

"The humidity is definitely a game-changer. ... I would definitely say that I'm adapting," Gronkowski said.

"I knew that was going to be a challenge and I've accepted that challenge. You just laugh about it when you're out there on the field," he added. "You laugh that your shoes are squishing (from sweat) and that you're breathing extra hard. It's a great challenge because it's going to make you better in the long run."

Arians likes what he's seen on the field, going as far as to say this week that the 2020 version of Gronk reminds him of the five-time Pro Bowl selection five or six years ago. That was before a string of injuries and surgeries began to take their toll.

Johnson takes 5-shot lead at TPC Boston

NORTON, Mass. (AP) — Dustin Johnson arrived at the TPC Boston this week, headed to the practice range and then looked at his swing coach.

"He said, 'Bro, what am I supposed to be working on again?'" Claude Harmon said Saturday as he watched his pupil set another personal record in The Northern Trust.

Johnson isn't doing much wrong at the moment, a daunting prospect to the guys trying to chase him. His birdie-eagle finish gave Johnson a 7-under 64 and stretched his lead to five shots over Harris English and Scottie Scheffler.

The finish would have come in handy the day before. Johnson was an astounding 11-under par through 11 holes Friday and had the golf world curious if he would go as low as 57 to set the PGA Tour record. Instead, he finished with seven straight pars for a 60, his best ever but not what it could have been.

Johnson put that behind him and looked just as good. Instead of the fast start, it was a big finish. He rolled in a 20-foot birdie on the 17th, and then holed a 40-footer up a ridge and down toward the hole for eagle on the par-5 18th.

That put him at 22-under 191, his lowest 54-hole by three shots.

In his mind, there is still work to be done.

"I'm in a great position and like where I'm at, but I'm still going to have to go out and shoot a good score," Johnson said. "You can go low out here and guys are going low every day, especially with the conditions we have—perfect greens, golf course is in great shape and not a lot of wind."

Johnson knows better than to think it's over. Just an hour before he signed for his 64, he was tied for the lead until English made bogeys on the 16th and 17th and missed a 7-foot birdie putt on the final hole for a 66.

He could also think back to the HSBC Champions in Shanghai three years ago, when he had a six-shot lead in the final round and lost to Justin Rose, matching a PGA Tour record.

As well as he's playing, he's only thinking of going as low as he can.

"Doesn't matter what the other guys are doing," Johnson said. "I'm just going to play my game and I'll be aggressive when I can be and be a little more conservative when I have to be."

Scheffler, coming off the 12th round of 59 or better on the PGA Tour, had a 67. He played in the final group with Johnson, just like he did two weeks ago on the final day of the PGA Championship. On this day, it was a final pair of two players who had the lowest rounds in TPC Boston history. Only one of them shot golf's magic number, and that wasn't a topic of conversation for either of them.

"I just told him nice playing," Johnson said.

Johnson is going for his second victory of the year and could go to No. 1 in the world—provided Jon Rahm doesn't finish second—for the first time since May 2019.

AP

Dustin Johnson hits on the 11th hole during the third round of the Northern Trust golf tournament at TPC Boston, Saturday, Aug. 22, 2020, in Norton, Mass.

Woods, McIlroy struggle

Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy both struggled in Saturday's third round of the Northern Trust, among the worst of those who made the cut at the US PGA playoff opener.

Reigning Masters champion Woods, a 15-time major winner, fired a two-over par 73 to stand on one-under 212 after 54 holes at TPC Boston.

That was only good enough for 67th place, one spot ahead of playing partner McIlroy, who fired a 74 to stand on 213 in third-to-last.

McIlroy endured triple-bogeys at the par-5 second and par-4 sixth holes, sandwiching his misery at the second between birdies.

Four-time major winner McIlroy missed the fairway, found the native area, hit the ball into the water off a rock and three-putted to make an 8 on the second, then needed four shots to find the fairway at six.

McIlroy opened and closed the back nine with birdies with a bogey at 14.

Woods birdied the second but followed with bogeys at three and five. He had seven-foot birdie putts to close the front and back nines but had three bogeys in four holes from the 11th to 14th.

Woods indicated he actually added a milestone moment to his storied career in an otherwise unspectacular round: when he tapped in for par at the 17th and told McIlroy it was his first time "ever" to putt with the flagstick in.

49

From Page 20

Gueverra on the finishers list were Edgar Abalos, Krisadra Gozon, Romy Ampit, Edwin Morales, Noel Altamirano, Noe Valdisimo, Enrique Suba, Ray Valencia, Flore Derexes, Jay Diyco, Russ Valino, Andrew Estepa, Wilfredo Barbo, Ernie Henzon, Renato Barros, Ricky Castro, Ambet Omampo, Elmer Esdrelon, Nap Dizon, Cesar Fortaleza, Jess Gariguez, and Philip Gauang. In the swim portion of the event, Carlos Aguilar, Chang Whan Jang, Chong Nam Lee, Eric Abragan, and Diony Peralta reached past the required miles.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Mark Isip, Vernice Estepa, Yulia Aleksenko, and Taro Goto receive their awards yesterday in Susupe after topping their respective events in the Go The Distance Challenge.

BAYERN

From Page 20

in selecting the champion of champions.

Bayern has the numbers

From the people polled by *Saipan Tribune*, Bayern got the most votes, 6-2. The stats also favored Bayern.

"FC Bayern shocked the football world as they humiliated Barcelona, 8-2, and their sixth European title is looking very difficult to bet against. The Bavarians put eight past the La Liga club, conceded two, and kept Lionel Messi quiet for the entire game," MP United Football Club technical director Norman Del Rosario said.

"Bayern has been the most relentless offensive force in the competition so far, setting the pace in almost every significant statistical category per 90 minutes. The Bavarians boast the most prolific scorer in the Champions League, and perhaps the best striker on the planet in Robert Lewandowski, who leads all players in non-penalty expected goals per 90 minutes. 'Lewa' isn't Bayern's only weapon. They have Ivan Perišić, Thomas Müller, Philippe Coutinho, Serge Gnabry and Corentin Tolisso, who are in the Top 35 in non-penalty expected goals plus assists per 90 minutes. And of course, I would like to support the team of my 'kababayan' David Alaba," he added.

For CNMI Men's National Team coach Michiteru Mita and his assistant, Jersh Angeles, they both picked Bayern because the German club plays better as a team.

"Bayern is more collective as a team and they have better team discipline," said Mita.

"Better and more organized in attacking and defending than PSG. They also have the better and more experienced GK [Manuel Neuer] since [Keylor] Navas from PSG might not play because of injury (hamstring). Bayern has the most organized and dangerous attacking team in UCL , but for sure it will be an exciting match," Angeles said.

CNMI Women's National Team assistant coach Angie Ito predicted the finals will be a blowout, while national player Thaiphi Austria agreed with Angeles that it will be a close one with Bayern on the winning end.

"How they keep possession and just move the ball simply is good. I think it will be a very close game considering how PSG is an amazing team as well, but I feel like Bayern will take this one," said Austria.

"Looking at their team and how they're playing for the past games, Bayern should be able to crush PSG," Ito said.

In 10 games that Bayern and PSG played before the finale, the former had a sweep, while the latter won eight, lost one (versus Borussia Dortmund), and drawn one (against Real Madrid). Bayern scored 42 goals (average of 4.2 per match), while PSG had 25 (2.5 average) with Lewandowski leading the charge with his 15 against the 9 of PSG top gunner Kylian Mbappe. In goals conceded, PSG allowed 5 over Bayern's 8.

Beating the odds

Besides the stats, history is also not on PSG's side.

According to CBS Sports, the last six first-time finalists lost the championship game. Valencia fell to Real Madrid in 2000, Real Madrid did in again to Bayer Leverkusen in 2002, Monaco lost to Porto in 2004, Arsenal bowed to Barcelona in 2006, Chelsea was beaten by Manchester United in 2018, and last year, Tottenham faltered against Liverpool.

Only one team has so far prevailed in their finals appearance debut in the Champions League when the Borussia Dortmund topped Juventus, 3-1, in 1997. PSG hoped to be the second one and they had the right men to do that.

Task to beat the odds for PSG are Mbappe and Neymar, who joined the franchise in 2017 and have since been pressured to prove their worth on the club. Mbappe starred for France in their 4-2 win over Croatia in the 2018 World Cup finals in 2018, while after his controversial move from Barca to PSG, Neymar winning it for his new team would justify his transfer and the record-deal he got.

The presence of the two highly-skilled players on PSG's side is enough for CNMI national player Sunjoon Tenorio and Kanoa Football Club coach Irish Pagarao to pick the underdogs. A healthy Navas (he was reported to have been practicing with the Paris team over the weekend) making a last-decision appearance in the finals would be key to neutralizing Bayern's offense.

"As many people know, I am a big Neymar fan and he is my favorite player of all time. That being said, I will have to go with PSG. The safe answer would be Bayern, but Neymar and Mbappe show up when it matters most so I'm saying PSG, 3-2," Tenorio said.

"Neymar and Mbappe are outstanding players with great skills and they always carry the team," Pagarao said.

Neymar has scored six goals in this year's Champions League and though a very good scorer, PSG benefits more from him being a decoy, as he leads the league in assists (24) since his debut in 2013 and has a passing accuracy of 71%.

Mbappe, though among the scorers on PSG, has an even passing accuracy (80%) than Neymar. He has also shown he has fully recovered from his ankle injury and determined to beat the odds for PSG.

James, Davis power Lakers past Blazers

PAGE 17

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Angels snap Athletics' 9-game home streak

PAGE 18

EUFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINALE

Bayern favored, but PSG on a mission

AP
In this February 9, 2020 file photo, Paris Saint-Germain's Kylian Mbappe chase the ball during their French L1 match against Lyon at the Parc des Princes Stadium in Paris, France.

AP
In this undated file photo, Bayern's Robert Lewandowski attempts a shot at a goal during a Bundesliga match against Borrusia Dormund in Munich, Germany.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

One team's heartbreak will end, while the other squad's would linger.

This season's EUFA Championship League finals featured the Paris Saint-Germain Football Club and the FC Bayern Munich—two teams that had a series of misfortunes in the competition for the top-division European clubs.

Though it had won the Champions League five times, Bayern fell short in the recent years, losing its semis games for four straight years (from 2014-2018) and was eliminated by eventual winner Liverpool in the group stage in 2019. PSG, on the other hand, has been dubbed the early choker in the Champions League, having been booted out in the quarterfinals from 2013-2016 and in the Round of 16 in the next three seasons before making it to the finals for the first time in the franchise's history.

The PSG-Bayern title showdown was scheduled for Aug. 23 (Aug. 24 at 5am Saipan time) at the Estadio da Luz in Lisbon, Portugal. By the time this piece comes out, we would have known who among the members of CNMI's soccer community were right

See BAYERN on Page 19

49 complete Go The Distance Challenge

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

More than 40 participants from Saipan completed the Go The Distance Challenge and received their finishers shirts yesterday in a brief ceremony hosted by Triathlon Association in the CNMI in Susupe.

Organized by Urban Fitness Project Team from Guam, Go the Distance Challenge participants were tasked to complete one of the four races—50-mile walk, 30-mile swim, 300-mile bike, ND 100-mile run in one month (from July 1 to 31). There was also the Ultimate Challenge (combined three events) with Manny Sitchon and Ronald Villafria reaching past the required distance in the swim, bike, and run, as the latter logged 542.08 miles against the former's 442.36.

GO THE DISTANCE CHALLENGE

Other notable Saipan finishers (placing in the Top 2 in their respective events) were Vernice Ronda Estepa (931.12 miles) and Sheila Isla (785.78) Mark Isip (2,231.46), and Pax Guevarra (1,756.93) in the bike; Yulia Aleksenko (70.58) and Florence Antonio (85.65) in the swim; and Taro Goto (311.64) in the run. The top finishers received trophies from Urban Fitness Guam.

Others who either met or surpassed the required distance in the run/walk were Joseph Muna, Marilou Carlos, Rommel Buenaflor, Roxanne Soriano, Jean Bernardo, Rose Soledad, Sharon Abragan, Daniel Dilse, Jerin Alladin, Patricia Cortez, Raymond and Kathleen Tolentino, Joseph Yap, and Arlene Naguit.

In the bike race, joining Isip, Estepa, Isla, and

See 49 on Page 19

AP
Paris Saint-Germain's Neymar celebrates at the end of their 3-0 win over RB Leipzig in the Champions League semifinals at the Luz stadium in Lisbon, Portugal, Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2020.